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AND
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No. 1970.

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THERE are few of our readers who are not familiar with the charming letters in which Lady Mary Wortley Montagu has recorded her impressions of Turkey and its people at the commencement of last century. Sir James Porter was the British Envoy at Constantinople some years later than Mr. Montagu, and he left in his journals the result of his "observations on the government and manners of the Turks," during the period from 1747 to 1762. After nearly a century, Sir James Porter's notes, which were published at the time, but have long since been forgotten, are brought up by his grandson, Sir George Larpent, who has continued the sketch of the history of Turkey, and added, from a variety of sources, notices of the laws and institutions, the customs and manners of the Osmanli. In the latter part of the book, Ubicini's 'Lettres sur la Turquie' have been the chief authority; but the Frenchman's lively and too favourable descriptions have been carefully compared with those of other standard works on the subject. On all matters relating to the commerce, military organization, finances, and public institutions of the Turks, the author has drawn the materials from the most recent and authentic sources of information. A chief recommendation of the work is its affording the means of readily comparing Turkey in the middle of the eighteenth and in the middle of the nineteenth centuries, and thereby enabling us to form a judgment as to the national progress and improvement, as to the probability or possibility of which there exists so wide a difference of opinion.

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"Richmond and its beautiful neighbourhood was, in those days, the residence of persons of fashion and eminence; among those who formed the *entourage* of Sir James Porter were Lord Pas-

borough—well known to him while travelling in Turkey; Philip, Lord Hardwicke; Daniel Wray, a man of uncommon information but eccentric habits; D. Garrick; Mr. Cambridge, the author of several well-known works; and at Ham resided the celebrated duchess of Queensbury, remarkable for her beauty, which was celebrated by Pope, and for her carelessness as regarded external forms. Prior's Kitty 'beautiful and young' had grown old, but still retained marked traces of her former beauty. She was interesting and fantastic, and enjoyed heartily the flattering homage she received. With this lady Sir James and his family were intimate, and at her house they met Mrs. Clive and Mrs. Abingdon—both actresses well known in their day. At his splendid villa near Putney, Sir G. Vanneck lived, a connexion of the Hochepped family, and at whose house Neckar and his wife were frequent guests.

"Upon the death of Lord Morton, President of the Royal Society, in 1768, a strong party in the Council and other members invited Sir James to succeed him: but not feeling himself of sufficient consequence, or rich enough to live in such a style as he conceived that the President of such a Society should maintain, for the reception of literary and scientific men, both native and foreign—he declined the honour, and Sir John Pringle, an eminent physician, for whom he had a sincere regard, was elected.

"It was in the quiet of his retirement at Ham that Sir James wrote his 'Observations on the Turks,' and a pamphlet on the Partition of Poland, to which nefarious proceeding, as he termed it, he was strenuously opposed. At the request of the Government, however, this pamphlet was suppressed; but his indignation was warmly and eloquently expressed in the presence of Baron Rougerfeldt, the Austrian ambassador, in the following words:—*'Ce n'est pas vous, M. le Baron; vous êtes un honnête homme. Je vous plains d'avoir affaire avec ces gens là—c'est ces têtes couronnées que je condamne; mais Dieu leur fera justice'*—a prediction which, though delayed, it is to be hoped will still be accomplished by the providence of a righteous God.

"At the house of his friend, Mr. Sargent, an American merchant, Sir James met Dr. Franklin, and though opposed to him in politics and opinion as to the justice of the complaints of the American colonists, Franklin was frequently at Sir James's house at Ham, amusing the family with his pithy sentences, cold yet observing manners, drab suit, and, when roused, his unadorned but persuasive eloquence. With Mr. Berenger also there was much intimacy, whom few men in society equalled in wit, originality, and good taste. He was connected with Lord Lytton; he taught George III. to ride, and his almost grotesque figure gave poignancy to the peculiar vein of humour he possessed. On Sir James's visits to Bath, which he frequently made for the benefit of his health, he renewed his friendship with Allan, Lord Bathurst, who then lived in retirement at Cirencester. Some very characteristic letters from that aged nobleman, the friend of Pope, which are appended, will be perused with interest.

"One other person must yet be mentioned—the celebrated Sir W. Jones, whose love and high esteem for Sir J. Porter are attested in his correspondence."

Of the personal history of Sir James Porter, the foregoing extract contains all that the general reader will care to know, the rest of Sir George Larpent's memoir referring chiefly to matters of private and family interest. With regard to his work, it is not easy to form a clear or satisfactory idea from the manner in which it appears in the present publication. Sir George Larpent professes to take his grandfather's observations as the basis of his work, but he has so mixed up the matter compiled from other sources, that the reader can scarcely be sure of the original authorship of any portion of the book. Speaking vaguely, the first volume is said to

contain Sir James Porter's observations, and the second volume to be composed of materials derived from subsequent authors. But in the first volume we find narratives of events that happened long after Mr. Porter had left the East; and the general description of the natural and industrial productions of Turkey, its trade and its commerce, is such as may be found in any geographical manual or gazetteer of our own day. For the information of readers who might be puzzled on their first examination of the book, we may state that the matter derived from Sir James Porter chiefly occupies the latter half of the first volume, under the general head of Turkey in the Last Century. The appendix to that volume contains miscellaneous documents, having no relation to Turkey, among which are an account of a visit to Count Zinzendorf's Moravian settlement; a letter from Lady Porter to Mdlle. Hochepped, an aunt or other relative of the editor; a letter from the Prince of Lorraine to Sir James Porter; and memoirs of the negotiation of 1741 between Austria and Prussia. All these materials may be in themselves important and interesting, but the contents of a work ought more fairly to correspond with the title-page.

The changes which have taken place in Turkey during the last century principally relate to the government and public institutions—the customs and manners of the people, excepting where there has been much intercourse with foreigners at Constantinople, having undergone little alteration. The treatment of their women is the point in which the social usages of the Osmanli differ most from those of Western Europe. Sir James Porter's observations on this subject are thus recorded:—

"A man, meeting a woman in the street, turns his head from her, as if it were forbidden to look on her: they seem to detest an impudent woman, to shun and avoid her. Any one, therefore, among the Christians, who may have discussions or altercations with Turks, if he has a woman of spirit, or a virago for his wife, sets her to revile and browbeat them, and by these means not unfrequently gains his point.

"The highest disgrace and shame would attend a Turk who should rashly lift his hand against a woman; all he can venture to do, is to treat her with harsh and contemptuous words, or to march off. The sex lay such stress on this privilege, that they are frequently apt to indulge their passion to excess, to be most unreasonable in their claims, and violent and irregular in the pursuit of them. They will importune, tease, and insult a judge on the bench, or even the Vizir at his Divan; the officers of justice do not know how to resent their turbulence; and it is a general observation, that, to get rid of them, they often let them gain their cause.

"I have heard it avowed by a person of great veracity, who had lived for some years in a Sultan's Harem of the blood royal, that it was impossible for women to behave with more decency and modesty than the Turkish ladies, and that they treated each other with the greatest politeness. In families of the higher class, where education is more extended, where reading their own language, or the Arabic, is carefully cultivated, precepts of virtue and morality, of gentle demeanour and good breeding, of chastity of manners, with whatever decorates the sex, are likely to be inculcated.

"But, in general, it is known that the women who are sold or presented to their great men, either for wives or mistresses, have their price and value regulated, not only according to the form or beauty of the person, but according to those acquired graces and artificial allurements which they have been industriously taught; these are always such as may conduce to influence the passions.

Hence they teach them vocal and instrumental music; certain peculiar affectations in their gait, and frequently such dances as to a modest spectator would appear rather indecent. I must add, as the general opinion, and what I have always heard, that the Turkish women are rather immodest. This may possibly be with some justice applicable to those women who are sold, or presented to the great and opulent.

"Whence the idea of the transcendent beauty of the Turkish women has arisen, it is difficult to say, unless it be from the warm imaginations of inventive travellers, who first raised these beautiful forms, sketched their charms, and became enamoured with originals they never saw.

"Hence, throughout Christendom, the fair Circassian has been the subject of romance and song; when, perhaps, there are not two Christians who ever saw one of these Venuses. It is certainly impossible in Turkey, for, from infancy to old age, scarce a single trace of a Turkish woman's face is perceptible. No adult maiden is ever visible, or no married woman, except to their parents, brother, or husband. As soon as they put on the macremma, or veil of modesty, every feature of their face is covered, except a small part of the nose and eyes: and some have carried that custom to such an extreme of delicacy, that, when they feed their poultry, if there are cocks among the hens, they will not appear before them without it. If Praxiteles or Apelles, with an angelic conception added to their art, were to meet a body of these fair ones, they could not form the least idea of the colour, form, or proportion of the face or features of one person among them; all to be distinguished is black or blue eyes, and the tincture of the skin is just faintly discernible.

"However, as they carefully preserve their faces from the harsh influence of the different changes of the air; as their hours are regular, and they are not exposed to a nocturnal atmosphere, or to the mixed warm exhalations of crowded rooms; we might expect that if the original formation happens to be beautiful, and nature has given them a fair and vivid complexion, these charms would be preserved for many years, and only suffer a gradual decay at the approach of old age.

"The Greek women are not tied down to the rigorous observance of Turkish restraint; they visit frequently, and, except in the street, their faces are not muffled up in the macremma. Of these we may speak with certainty: they have, for the most part, good features, and pleasing countenances, but, in general, rather a tanned than a fair complexion.

"The opulent have often three or four wives, and perhaps many slaves, but if they choose to adhere to the more laudable part of the law, and keep only two wives, it is equally convenient; for they may alternate and change as often as the number will admit. After a divorce they may take the same woman a second but not a third time, unless she has been married to another husband. No man can marry a divorced woman sooner than four months and a half after a total separation from the former husband. The man may oblige a woman to nurse any infant she has borne him until it is two years old.

"Whether from such a promiscuous intercourse with women, or from whatever cause it may arise—there is not the number of children in Turkish families, as the idea of polygamy naturally suggests; it may even be affirmed, that they have not, in general, so many children as may be found in common families of Christians and Jews. Gul Achmet, who died Pacha of the Morea, had the greatest number I ever heard of in one Turkish family—namely, seventeen. Among Christians, I knew one family of twenty-one, and another of twenty-three children, by one mother in each family.

"May it not hence be inferred that polygamy is a deviation from the law of nature? Is it not a strong presumptive argument to prove, that, as the number of male and female births run almost in equal proportion, so, to keep up a constant order of population, one woman only should be allowed to one man?

"That this supposed proportion between the number of men and women holds true, may be justly concluded from the obvious consequence of polygamy in Turkey, for to what other cause can it be attributed, that they have not a sufficient supply of women for their men? It is evident that throughout the vast extent of the Muhammadan dominions, they have it not, but women are daily imported among them from other countries; they are a merchandize of exotic production, the price of which ebbs and flows, according to the plenty or scarcity of the market.

"War supplies this want by the number of female captives: the Turks in their excursions are very eager to seize women, and during that time women are plentiful and cheap. But what is strange, in time of peace the mere poverty and misery of their neighbours, the Georgians, who are a kind of Christians, oblige that wretched people to furnish spontaneously their fairest maidens to the Muhammadan markets, as their country must starve and perish without this species of commerce.

"I cannot help observing how the world has been imposed upon and amused with romantic stories of the artful and subtle amorous intrigues carried on with Turkish ladies. It is as easy to scale Heaven, as to reach them; their apartments are fortresses, most of them surrounded with high walls, and they have not a window which opens toward the street: their guardians are ever about them, and the secret can never be withheld from ten, twenty, or double that number of other women. They seldom or never walk the streets but in infancy or old age; the rich are never seen; and were opportunities to offer, which might render it possible for a Christian to attempt an intrigue with a Turkish woman, he knows that on detection immediate death is his doom: and that those who have been accessories, whether by encouragement or connivance, must share the same fate."

From the chapter on 'The Laws of Matrimony,' in Sir George Larpent's second volume, we quote the following account of the Harem, or the part of a Turkish house set apart for the women. We advise all who have opportunity, to visit the Turkish Museum now exhibiting in London, which will convey, on this and on many other customs and manners of the country, a far better idea than can be obtained from written descriptions:—

"The houses of the Mussulmans are arranged in such a way that the lodging of the women is always separated from that of the men; the former is called harem, or sacred place, and the latter selamleh, or habitation of the man. At the houses of the great there are two piles of building, which communicate with each other by intermediate apartments, of which the husband alone possesses the key. Access to the harem is strictly forbidden to men; the male servants and slaves never enter it, and the male relations themselves are never admitted, except it be on the two grand festivals of the year, and on the occasions of weddings, lyings-in, or circumcision.

"Commonly the harem has no windows towards the street, or if there be any, they are lofty, and grated in such a manner that it is impossible to see from without what is passing within. In the countries where every house has its terrace or flat roof, there are walls of separation which cannot be passed, and which prevent all communication. The wife of a certain rank when young goes very little from home, because it is not fashionable for her to appear in the streets, although veiled; because the law exempts her from going to the mosque; because she has in her own house baths which she uses at pleasure; and because she is surrounded by female slaves who watch over her, and female relatives who counteract her inclinations for society if such exist. To please her husband, to detain him in the harem as long as his affairs permit, to take care of her children, to occupy herself with her dress and very little with her family, to pray at the hours prescribed by religion, and to pass a part of the day without doing anything, another in smoking, drinking coffee, receiving

female friends, relations, or women under her protection—such are the duties and pleasures of a Mussulman woman. She seldom can read, and scarcely ever write. She has learnt to sew and embroider, prepare confits and dainties, and make sherbet; but she finds it more pleasant to do nothing, to remain quiet on her sofa, and roll between her fingers a chaplet of coral or agate. She considers it a delightful enjoyment to hold from time to time a dish of coffee in one hand, a chibouque in the other, and to carry them alternately to her lips, at the same time inhaling the vapour of the one, and retaining as long as possible the aroma of the other. What afterwards gratifies her the most, is to have them in her power to display to the eyes of the women whom she receives some rich trinkets and a robe of great value. A Mussulman is very poor if he has not several slaves to wait on his wife, and the latter is very unskilful if she does not soon convert into trinkets the greater part of the husband's fortune. Besides, when a divorce takes place between a married couple, the wife keeps her jewels and her wardrobe, independently of the other effects stipulated in the contract of marriage.

"The wife takes her meals alone, or with the mother and the female relations of the husband, who are with her in the harem. He eats with his father and the male relations who live with him, and when he is alone, or causes himself to be served in the harem—which frequently happens—even the wife does not eat with him: she waits on him, or sees that the slaves are attentive in waiting on him. The meal being finished, the hands and mouth washed and wiped, she herself presents him the pipe and coffee.

"Although the law allows Mussulmans to have four wives, few among them have more than one, because they lead to considerable expense; and, shut up in the same harem, they cannot live together in harmony; they perplex the husband with their complaints, or plague him with their pretensions. Besides, almost every woman, on her marriage, requires an obligation from her husband not to wed another in her lifetime, or as long as she shall not have been separated by a divorce."

Sir George Larpent's description of the present condition of the Turkish empire is arranged under the following general heads—Religious and Civil Government, Legislature, Education, Finances, Naval and Military Strength, and Social Condition. An appendix contains a sketch of the progress of the war down to the siege of Silistria.

Among the miscellaneous contents of the second volume are introduced biographical notices of Omer Pacha and of Guyon, the two best officers at present in the Turkish service. Omer Pacha, it is well known, is an Austrian, but few are aware that Guyon is by birth an Englishman, son of a captain in the navy. He entered the Austrian army in 1830, and afterwards settled in Hungary as a landed proprietor. When the Hungarian war of independence broke out, Guyon took a noble part on the side of his adopted country:—

"Guyon, during the operations of the first campaign, which ended with Prince Windischgrätz's retreat from Pesth, distinguished himself in several engagements, and more especially by his victory on the Tarega, when Count Schlich was opposed to him. A soldier who measures his strength against a Schlich and gains the victory, must necessarily possess a very large share of strategic talent. His courage was also of the highest value to Hungary on another occasion, when he defended for a whole day the unprotected town of Tyrnan with only 1800 men, on the 18th December, 1848, against the Imperial General Simunich, who was at the head of 10,000 men.

"During the advance of the Hungarians from Debreczyn against Pesth, Guyon was appointed Commander of Comorn. But the fortress was closely invested by the Austrians, and his attempt to cut his way through the lines of the besiegers was a most desperate undertaking. Accompanied

by only twenty hussars Guyon approached the enemy's works, and, after a series of most extraordinary adventures, reached the interior of the fortress in safety. His appearance re-animating the courage of the garrison, and Comorn held out till relieved by the Magyar army. On the second approach of the Imperialists, under Field-Marshal Baron Haynau, Guyon lost his command, which was given to Klapka.

"Görgey managed to have Guyon removed from the active army and commissioned with the formation of a reserve. During the last struggles of the revolution he again appeared on the battle-field. Immediately after the battle of Temesvar Kossuth asserted that Dembinski had gained the victory; while, on the other hand, Görgey declared that he had received information of the contrary. According as this turned out Görgey would lay down his arms or continue the struggle. An official letter arrived, in which Guyon reported, with the strictest adherence to truth, that Dembinski's army had been utterly annihilated before Temesvar, long after Bem's Transylvanian army had ceased to exist. This letter was immediately followed by the truce of Villagos.

"Guyon retired to Turkey with the remnants of the Hungarian army. He was one of the officers whose extradition the Austrian Government, supported by the Russians, demanded, and, had he been delivered up to the Imperial Authorities, his fate would have been but too certain. When the Turkish Government, in order to gain valuable officers for their own army, pretended that they could only afford protection to those who would be converted to Islamism, the same message was sent to Guyon. From this moment he appears in the newspaper reports as a Turkish Pacha, and is called Cursheid."

We have already mentioned that Sir George Larpent's work is composed of heterogeneous materials, among which Sir James Porter's observations occupy but a secondary place. But the deep interest at present felt in all that relates to Turkish affairs makes any information on the subject welcome.

The Two-fold Slavery of the United States: with a Project of Self-Emancipation.

Marshall Hall, M.D., F.R.S. Adam Scott. On the subject of negro slavery there is now happily no difference of sentiment in this country. Hatred of slavery is part of the creed and the constitution of every Englishman, and we can scarcely realize the comparatively recent time when slaveholders had their advocates and defenders in the British Parliament. It was the power of public opinion, exerted through the pulpit, the platform, and the press, which gradually destroyed a system which once prevailed in the dependencies of our own empire. It will do the same in due time in America. The social and political mischiefs of slavery are there becoming known, as well as its moral evil felt. A willingness to substitute free for slave labour is expressed by many, if they could only see how it could be safely done. By those who are in earnest in these wishes, Dr. Marshall Hall's statements and suggestions ought to be received with favour. He travelled in the slave States, bearing no ill-feeling to the slaveholders, and he has recorded his observations in a spirit of the utmost conciliation and fairness. Zealous abolitionists will look with little favour on his plan of gradual emancipation, and will still proclaim every hour's retention of such property as a cruelty and a crime. But Dr. Marshall Hall addresses those who take more moderate and practical views of the subject. Here is his summary of the actual condition of the slave

question, and the outline of his plan for self-emancipation:—

"I have, during nearly fifteen months spent in the United States, directed all my attention to the condition of the African race in that land of liberty, so-called. I have during this period four times crossed the States between the eastern and western points, in their mean and extreme latitudes; and I have visited Canada and Cuba. I wished to see and judge for myself. I wished to behold the poor African in all his positions and in all his conditions:—in his state of freedom in Canada; in his bondage to a popular prejudice and a cruel oppression in the northern, and in his slavery under a legal institution in the southern, States; and in his worse than United States' bondage under the yoke imposed by Spanish law or custom in Cuba.

"I soon perceived that the question was not one of mere slavery, as that term is usually employed; but that there is a *second* slavery of the free or emancipated African in the United States, severer, in certain respects, even than the first,—a slavery to which too little attention has hitherto been paid.

"In effect, the African in the *slavery* of the United States is usually so well cared for, that he is for the most part, according to the expression of Henry Clay, 'fat and sleek,' and his numbers increase in a higher ratio than those of the European; whilst the African said to be *free* is so crushed by State legislation and popular prejudice and oppression as to provide for himself and family through extreme difficulties, and is at once wretched individually and scarcely increases his numbers as a race:—facts of the most affecting interest.

"Much, therefore, as has been said of *Abolition*, I can scarcely regard it, under existing circumstances, as a boon to the poor African in the United States.

"Slavery at least feeds and clothes its unhappy victims, so that *animal* life is supported and perpetuated. It is only when the slave is viewed as an intellectual being—as *Man*, in a word—that his degradation, his ignorance, his privation of holy marriage and of parental rights, his subjection to the infliction of the lash, his exposure to public sale by auction, and his treatment for the sake of offspring in the 'breeding States,' stand forth in all their enormity.

"The question in regard to slavery in the United States is essentially a question of religion and of conscience. Any other lower view of the subject is utterly unworthy of its magnitude and importance, in itself, and in its relation to three millions and a half (3,638,808) of our fellow men and brethren, the coloured people in the United States, and to the character of a great nation.

"It will be perceived, as I proceed, that this high and conscientious view of the subject is happily not incompatible with the best interests of the European in the United States, and of the country at large.

"Unprepared abolition, I repeat, would be no boon to the African slave in the United States. It would, alone, only lead to the second slavery to which I have adverted, even if the freed slave was perfectly well-conducted. Might it not also lead to ruin of both planter and estate?

"Besides, it is statistically true that, during the period of the abolition agitation, the increase of the number of the *slaves* has been regular and fearful, whilst that of the *free*, so-called, has rapidly diminished. What then has this abolition accomplished? Nothing! And, at this very moment, *nothing* is being done for the poor African race in the United States.

"As to *Colonization*, it is utterly inadequate to the eradication of slavery: in the year 1850, 562 coloured persons were sent by the Colonizing Society to Liberia. In the same year, 8169 (nearly fifteen times 562) were added to the slave population of the United States, by the excess of births over the deaths. It is obvious, therefore, that emigration to Liberia can never overtake the mere natural increase of the African race; far less can it remove the present number of that race in the United States, with its increase. During the thirty

years of the existence of the Colonization movement, about 10,000 free Africans have been conveyed away. But 3,638,808 of the African race, including 3,204,313 slave and 434,495 free, exist in the United States and Territories, a number which, without increase, it would require three centuries and a half to convey away at the same rate.

"The scheme of Colonization, therefore, bears no proportion to its object, if that object be—emancipation of the African slave and his removal from the United States.

"But, even admitting that the deportation of the African race from the United States were possible, that race cannot be *spared*; it is essential to the cultivation of the cotton-plant, the sugar-cane, and the rice-field.

"Abolition and Colonization then are equally out of the question. Not less so, I believe, is the deliberate view of the *Perpetuation* of slavery.

"Such a view is immediately met by a great difficulty. The slaves of the United States are now accumulated in the southern or slave States, the northern States having emancipated themselves from slavery. The principal slave States are Maryland, Virginia, North and South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Tennessee, Kentucky, and Missouri, below Mason and Dixon's line. In these States, the numbers of the European are less than in the northern States. In several, the African race bears a large proportion to the European, and in two, South Carolina and Mississippi, actually exceeds it. In addition to this large proportional number of the African slaves, it must be remembered that they augment their numbers, by natural increase, more rapidly than the European.

"In the course of time the African race will acquire, in the southern States, an overwhelming and dangerous numerical majority over the European. This event cannot be long delayed even. The number of the African is doubled in a period of time between 25 and 30 years. Their present number is, as I have already stated, 3,638,808. In little more than half a century this number will be quadrupled, and attain that of fourteen millions; and in a little more than a century it will be upwards of fifty millions.

"Is there not revealed in these views a fearful future, not very remote? And, should not the planter bethink himself how the impending evil may be averted? This cannot be done either by Abolition or Colonization. The former would not diminish the number of the African race in the United States, and could only act by diffusing it over the so-called free States, and subjecting it to a second slavery. The latter, as I have already said, could only remove a very inadequate number. And, lastly, the African race cannot, as I have also said, be spared from the cotton, the sugar, and the rice-fields of the southern States.

"Pressed by all these difficulties, or rather impossibilities, what is to be done to remove this giant evil of slavery—of the two-fold slavery, for such it is—from the United States?

"Happily, I believe, I have a well-matured proposition to make to effect this great object, a proposition as effectual as that object is momentous and grand:—It is that of a plan of Self-Emancipation—so framed as to strike at the very root of all slavery, eradicating at once its degradation, its ignorance, its injustice, and its irreligion.

"I propose that a system of education, and discipline, and preparation be adopted; that a just and generous premium be placed on each slave; that task-work and over-work be appointed him, in the place of day-work; that he be led by this means to achieve his own emancipation, the wages for his over-work being secured, with liberal interest, in Savings' banks; that his efforts be seconded by the generosity of others; that when the sum appointed is thus accumulated, it be paid over to his master by the proper authorities, and that he be declared—free! That, when free, he be retained, if he desire it, in his former position, receiving just wages.

"The African race, in the United States, will

thus become—the finest peasantry in the world,—and be the glory instead of the shame of the country.

“From the very moment even that this plan is properly and fully promulgated by law, there will no longer exist in the United States any other than a voluntary slavery; and the voluntary slave is at once unworthy and incapable of freedom!”

“When thus self-emancipated, the slave will not only be free, but educated, and disciplined, and elevated in character. Self-emancipation has this advantage over abolition, that, whilst it frees, it prepares for freedom; and that, whilst it confers freedom on the slave, it brings no ruin on the planter or his estate. It has this advantage over ordinary manumission, that, whilst it achieves freedom, it entails no necessity for removal from the plantation where the achievement is made. The slave becomes more valuable even than before, as a free and more active cultivator of the soil is more valuable than the lash-driven slave.

“The first object of self-emancipation, after the attainment of freedom, is—elevation in character and conduct. This will inspire proportionate respect. European prejudice and oppression will cease, and the poor African will no longer suffer from a second slavery, when emancipated from the first. He will excel in certain useful arts. He will accumulate wealth; for many of his race have done so. And, without amalgamation, which I by no means contemplate, he will attain just rank in society, as a man, a rightful husband and parent, and a citizen.

“In the scheme of self-emancipation no interests are overlooked or neglected. The feeble and infirm will not be able to emancipate themselves; they will remain, as at present, under their masters’ ‘patriarchal’ care. But the able will reimburse the planter the cost of his slave, and, I am persuaded, become to him a servant of even greater money value. For it is no longer necessary to prove that free-labour is more energetic and productive than slave-labour, that wages are a better stimulus to industry than the lash.

“And what shall I say of the national honour? What American will not rejoice to have the stain and the sin of slavery, with its degradation, its adultery, its cruelty too—for there is cruelty in the slavery of the United States,—removed from his native land and home for ever?

“There is still another object to be secured—the permanency of the Union, which all acknowledge to be endangered by the fact of slavery in one-half of the United States.”

Such is the temperate and feasible plan proposed by Dr. Marshall Hall. The results of this gradual emancipation are thus in glowing colours depicted:—

“The African race in the United States will be educated and elevated.

“They will constitute families which no power of man can sunder; the husband and wife will be indissolubly and holily bound together; their offspring will be their own, bound to them by parental and filial bonds. The father will no more behold his beloved child, his daughter it may be, become the property of another.

“The labourer will value a good place, a kind master. He will take pride in his well-furnished cottage, a mean ‘cabin’ no longer; in his little garden, and most especially in his tidy Sunday attire. His very nature will appear changed.

“If thrifty, he will put part of his earnings into the Savings’ bank; perhaps purchase a cottage or a little land, and so ‘possess a stake in the country,’ and have his children educated.

“Some may even realise greater things; wealth, property, position; and become ‘the finest peasantry in the world;’ farmers, planters; artisans, builders, engineers; schoolmasters, editors, authors.

“M. de Tocqueville and Dr. Chickering forebode calamity as the necessary result of slavery in the United States. I venture to hope that that calamity may be averted by changing slavery with its dire injustice, into freedom with its rights and

privileges. The injured slave might, when his numbers are augmented, contend with his master. With every right, a people of proved faithfulness and loyalty, with their families, their home, their country, will be the safeguard and protection of the European race.

“The odious cow-hide, the whip and the paddle; the handcuff and the collar; the public sale of human beings, will cease and be forgotten, with slavery and all its indignities.

“The African will take his place in the United States as a Man; ‘the Ethiopian will raise his hands to God.’”

A far more difficult question is that which relates to the social degradation of the coloured people in the nominally free States:—

“In Baltimore, I first witnessed the effects of that second slavery of oppression, the slavery of the so-called free African, of which I propose to treat specially: in Baltimore, a person of colour, however said to be free, may not drive a dray, or guide a boat; and yet every one knows that in the performance of such offices he is most skilful.

“From Baltimore we proceeded to Philadelphia. In this chief city of the free State of Pennsylvania, we again met with that second slavery of prejudice and oppression, pervading all classes, and still pursuing the poor African, who may have escaped from the first, in all the (so called) free States of North America, to which I have just adverted. In Philadelphia, the African may not pursue the humble occupation of driver of an omnibus—this office being forcibly monopolized by the Anglo-Saxon to his exclusion, no one coming to his aid. Yet was it in this very city that the Act was signed, declaring man equal, with inalienable rights, and free!

“I have frequently adverted to this second kind of oppression, by which the poor African is visited in the United States. In some of the States, termed free, in Ohio, in Indiana, but especially in Illinois, he is absolutely prohibited and excluded by State-law, and by recent State-law too, from taking up his abode and pursuing some humble calling of industry. If he attempt to do so, he is actually driven, or sold, from the state, re-sold into slavery! What words can adequately characterize such legislation? How truly is it said—‘Homo homini aut Deus aut demon!’ What a contrast does this Illinois present with Old England! In England, the moment the slave’s foot touches the soil, he is free. In Illinois, the moment the free man of colour touches the soil, of his own country too, even the country of his birth, he becomes,—an alien, or—a slave!

“And thus Illinois, on an area of 55,409 square miles, gives refuge and a home to 5436 free coloured persons only; whilst the friendly State of Pennsylvania, over a space of only 47,000 square miles of surface, affords shelter to 53,626 of the persecuted freemen of the African race.

“One thing only was required to fill up the measure of this iniquity, and this has been supplied by Kentucky. Within a few years, a new Constitution has been framed by this state, in one article of which it is enacted, that no one shall liberate a slave without conveying him out of the State! And whither, oh! whither could he convey him, if all the states should enact such a code as has recently been enacted by Illinois?

“This persecution is as unreasonable too, as it is unjust. If the African really makes an able blacksmith, and carpenter, and builder, and if such artisans are needed in the United States, why should he be discarded? Why may not the blacksmith, the carpenter, and the bricklayer; the shoemaker and the tailor; the grocer and the draper; the gardener and the farmer, be—black? And if the coloured man’s talents fit him for higher stations and occupations, is it not unworthy of the proud Anglo-Saxon to oppose his feeble brother in his difficult career?

“If this legislation be aimed at the idle and the dissolute amongst the coloured race, be it so; but let it be directed against misconduct and not against complexion, against the criminal and not

against the race; and let us, by education and elevation, endeavour to prevent the crime we now punish.”

To English readers the subjects of Dr. Marshall Hall’s book need little argument or illustration. We trust that what he has written may aid in diffusing and strengthening a healthier state of public feeling in America, from which alone we are to look for the removal or mitigation of the twofold slavery by which that country is at present disgraced.

The Baltic, its Gates, Shores, and Cities: with a Notice of the White Sea. By the Rev. Thomas Milner, M.A., F.R.G.S. Longman and Co.

THIS is a very different book from any that has been yet published on the Baltic. It is not a narrative of personal adventures, but a clever, elaborate compilation—historical, archaeological, commercial, topographical, and anecdotal, of comparatively all that has ever been observed or written on the subject. Mr. Milner has been very earnest in his researches, and he has a happy style of condensing and giving expression to his materials. If there is an exception to be made, it is that he is too trite, too Pinnock-like; but that is, at least, an error on the right side. The author commences his labours with an account of the very earliest connexion of the Danes and Northmen with the Jutes, Angles, and Saxons, not omitting to remind his readers that the word England is from Angle-land, and English from Angles; and passes in review a number of well-told stories, including those of Peter the Great’s visit to a Quaker’s meeting-house in Gracechurch-street, and the arrest of a Russian ambassador for debt. He then treats of the physical features of this renowned sea and its basin, and proceeds to detail in order the full history of the Danish shores, the Germanic shores, the Swedish shores, and the Russian shores. Mr. Milner thus speaks of St. Petersburg:—

“The sites of London and Paris had been occupied more than a thousand years—Queen Anne was upon the throne of England, and Louis XIV. on that of France—when the city was founded. This was in the year 1703. According to the ancient Muscovite custom of consecrating to archangels, angels, and saints, not only places of worship, but fortresses, castles, palaces, and cities, the new capital was dedicated to St. Peter, and took its name from that of the apostle. One of the first buildings, a small fort, was commenced on an island, and occupied the spot where the Academy of Sciences is now seated. Vassali Demetrieveitz, a captain of artillery, was appointed to the command. The monarch addressed his written orders to him with the superscription, *Vassali na Ostrof, ‘To Vassali in the Island.’* Hence it received and still retains that name. It was then covered with low trees, brushwood, and rank grass, but is now an important quarter of the capital, on which may be seen regular streets, majestic edifices inhabited by rich merchants, the exchange, custom-house, and other public buildings. The original erections were of wood. In 1710 the first brick house was built; in 1712 the residence of the Czar was transferred from Moscow to the maritime site; and in 1715 a general order was issued that the houses should be of brick, covered with red tiles. Finland was ravaged to obtain the materials, and the spoils of Abo contributed to the aggrandisement of St. Petersburg. Every large ship that entered the river was required to bring a cargo of thirty stones, every small one ten stones, and every waggon from the country ten. But it was impossible to execute the order to any great extent. 40,000 Swedish and Finnish prisoners, with other captives, were at this

time employed in constructing the dockyard, erecting wharfs, and raising fortifications. Menzikoff, the proud favourite, who rose from the station of a pastry-cook's boy in the streets of Moscow to become a prime minister, had the chief superintendence of the works; and was once soundly cudgelled by his master, when a disappointment occurred, a chastisement which he took as submissively as a spaniel.

"The site rapidly became one of traffic in consequence of two ukases, one forbidding the importation of produce for the interior from Archangel, and another commanding every merchant to export a third of his merchandise from the Neva. Not many months had elapsed after the foundation of the city, when Peter was informed that a large ship was seen standing into the river. It proved to be a Dutchman, the first vessel that ever entered the new port, laden with a cargo of salt, wine, and other provisions. Auke Wybes, the skipper, was joyfully welcomed by the Czar, especially as the ship had been freighted by an old acquaintance of his own in Holland. In honour of the event, the vessel was allowed to bring into the empire, duty free, whatever cargo it carried—a privilege which only ceased towards the close of the last century, when it became impossible to render the old ship sea-worthy. The second vessel was likewise Dutch, laden with hams, butter, cheese, and gin. The third was English. From the first year of its existence till 1720, St. Petersburg saw only from 12 to 50 ships yearly; from 1720 to 1730, the number was from 200 to 250; from 1730 to 1750, the average annual arrivals was from 300 to 400; and during the present century it has amounted to nearly 2000. A cipher will express the return for the present year.

"In the time of its founder the city was a very homely skeleton, partially occupying some islands of the Neva, and the north bank of the river. An old map, bearing date 1738, exhibits scarcely an erection besides the Admiralty on the south bank, where principal part of the capital is now situated, with most of its magnificent edifices. The Nevski Prospekt, the Regent Street of St. Petersburg, is delineated on the map in its present direction, but only as an avenue of trees. Its grandeur dates from the reign of Catherine II., who built noble palaces for her favourites, formed canals, and caused the vast granite quays to be constructed. But down to the time of Alexander foot-pavements were unknown. The emperor, on the occasion of his visit to London, was so struck with this accommodation for pedestrians, that he directed it to be introduced in the principal quarter of his own capital, every inhabitant being forthwith required to pave at his own expense the frontage of his dwelling. The streets still remain very imperfectly lighted in winter with oil lamps, three attempts to substitute gas having been frustrated by untoward events."

Our readers will, perhaps, be most interested at this moment with what Mr. Milner has collected of the fleet at Cronstadt:—

"Nicholas has done more for the navy of the empire than any preceding sovereign; but it has been pronounced a failure by competent naval authorities. This opinion does not refer to its positive force, but to the build, equipment, manning, and officership of the vessels, as compared with the same elements in the fleets of the maritime nations. The correctness of the judgment may be admitted without hazarding the dangerous error of under-estimating the means of an opponent. The sea service has never been popular with the true Muscovites; and, however carefully instructed in the nautical academies, officers rarely become efficient in a profession for which a special predilection is wanting. The common seamen labour under the same disability, except the Fins in the north, and the Greeks in the south. Though in possession of unbounded supplies of the best materials for shipbuilding—timber, iron, hemp, and tar,—yet, owing to the venality of the employés, and the absurd interference of unenlightened authority, the vessels constructed in the national dock-

yards are clumsily built, deficient in sailing qualities, and do not readily answer to the helm. The best ships of the Russian navy have been built in the ports of other countries. Golovin states, that when the Emperor inspected a man-of-war on the stocks, the Russia, now at Helsingfors, he found that there was not room to move about at ease, and ordered the vessel to be made more spacious. The imperial opinion prevailed over that of the naval superintendent; and the ship turned out to be one of the worst sailers in the fleet. The entire force in the Baltic consists of thirty ships of the line, all sailing vessels; six sailing frigates, five sailing brigs and corvettes, and ten paddle-wheel steamers, besides the gun-boat flotilla, and miscellaneous craft, as schooners, transports, luggers, and yachts.

"Of the thirty ships of the line not more than twenty are in a serviceable condition. The Grand Duke Constantine, second son of the Emperor, is High Admiral of the fleet. The Prince was born in 1827, and married, in 1848, the Princess Alexandra, daughter of the Duke of Saxe-Altenburg. Fanatically attached to the Russian-Greek Church, in which he has officiated, and to the old Muscovite party, the good people of Cronstadt presented him, upon the approach of hostilities, with a magnificent image of St. Nicholas, the patron of Muscovy, famous for working miracles, to be placed at the prow of his flag-ship. Further to secure the stronghold, the Empress despatched four images, representing St. Alexander Nevsky, St. Nicholas, St. Peter, and St. Paul, to be respectively given to the forts Alexander, Cronslot, Peter, and Risbank. The gross superstition is more surprising and disgusting now than was its parallel a century and a half ago, when on the occasion of the great defeat of the Russians by the Swedes at Narva, the clergy offered up a prayer in the churches, invoking the patron saint of the country in profane terms, without condescending to notice at all the Supreme Being:—"O thou who art our perpetual comforter in all our adversities, great St. Nicholas: infinitely powerful, by what sin have we offended thee in our sacrifices, genuflexions, reverences, and thanksgivings, that thou hast thus forsaken us? We have implored thy assistance against these terrible, insolent, enraged, dreadful, insuperable destroyers, when like lions and bears, and other savage beasts, which have lost their young, they have attacked us, terrified, wounded, slain by thousands, us, who are thy people. But as it is impossible this could have happened without witchcraft and enchantment, seeing the great care that we have taken to fortify ourselves in an inaccessible manner, for the defence and security of thy name, we beseech thee, O great Nicholas! to be our champion and standard-bearer, to be with us as well in peace as in war, in all our necessities, and in the time of our death; to protect us against this terrible and tyrannical crowd of sorcerers, and drive them far from our frontiers, with the reward which they deserve."

The difficulties of penetrating through to St. Petersburg are indeed such as should lead Sir Charles Napier to look well before he makes the daring leap:—

"Apparently, the capital may be reached by passing Cronstadt on the north and south; but the northern passage, or that between the island and the Finnish shore, has been obstructed by the Government by piles, blocks of stone, and other materials, so as not to be navigable except by light craft. The southern is the only available passage. There is here a ship channel, called the Great Road, comparatively narrow, and completely swept by the heavy guns of four principal forts. On approaching from seaward, Fort Alexander first occurs, on the left; an imposing elliptical construction of granite blocks, mounting 116 eight-inch and ten-inch guns, all in casemates, which must be passed within the distance of 800 yards. Next, on the right, is Fort Risbank, at about the same distance; an oblong, with sixty guns of the heaviest calibre. Further on, but to the left, is Fort Peter, with seventy-six pieces of artillery; and Cronslot, to the right, mounting, perhaps,

eighty guns. The Great Road, defended by these detached works, conducts to the Little Road, a much narrower channel, leading up to Cronstadt. This is exposed to the fire of Fort Menzikoff, with forty-four guns, a granite mass on the mole of the western harbour. Enormous sums have been expended upon these defences, with small redoubt and batteries, in order to render Cronstadt, and by consequence St. Petersburg, impregnable by sea. Whether they can be successfully attacked is a problem which remains to be solved; and opinion differs as to the solution."

As an example of the writer's lighter style, we may quote his account of Kronborg Castle at Elsinore:—

"Kronborg Castle, an immense pile of Gothic architecture, immediately adjoining the town on the north, and projecting into the sea, is an imposing object, viewed in any direction, but especially from the surface of the Sound, combining the strength of a fortress with the elegance and grandeur of a palace. The edifice was founded by Frederick II. in the year 1574, and completed in the reign of Christian IV. It remained a royal residence for some time, but has long been appropriated to other purposes, now being used for a prison and a sea-mark. The northern turret bears a fixed light, and commands a fine view of the channel, with its shipping, and the Swedish shore. In this building, in 1772, Caroline Matilda, Queen of Denmark, sister of George III., was confined upon a charge of which she has been acquitted by the unanimous verdict of posterity, including that of the Danish Royal family. The story of her misfortunes is a more than thrice-told tale, though not so familiar to the present generation as it was to their grandfathers. It has been properly said, that the memory of injustice ought never to die, for to hand it down on the page of history, branded with the infamy it deserves, is the only compensation which can be made to the guiltless party, and may prove a useful warning to those who stand on the verge of a similar crime.

"Married at an early age to Christian VII., an imbecile and vicious monarch, the young queen fell a victim to the ambition and malignity of her step-mother, the Queen-dowager, who wished to secure the succession to her own son. The plot contrived for this purpose involved a charge of political intrigue with the prime minister, Count Struensee, to which the suspicion of personal criminality was attached. He was a foreigner, the advocate of popular rights, obnoxious on both accounts to the higher classes. It was on the night of a masked ball in the royal palace at Copenhagen that the plot took effect. The king danced with the queen, who, upon his retiring from the room, gave her hand to Struensee. The Queen-dowager and her son Prince Frederick were present, and often exchanged remarks in a tone too low to be overheard. Caroline Matilda withdrew from the gay scene at two o'clock in the morning. At four, Prince Frederic, with his mother and two confidants, went to the king's bed chamber, and directed the page in attendance to arouse him. While alarmed by this disturbance at such an hour, they informed him that his consort, the minister, and other confederates, were at that very moment drawing up an act of abdication, and would compel him to sign it, unless their movements were promptly anticipated. Upon this monstrous accusation against a mere girl, unsupported by the slightest evidence, she was immediately arrested, and ultimately conveyed a prisoner to Kronborg. Struensee and Count Brandt were seized, and executed after a mock trial. After an imprisonment of some months, the queen was permitted to retire to Zell in Hanover, owing to the intervention of her brother; and three years afterwards she went in sorrow to the grave, at the still youthful age of twenty-three. No one now believes that a shadow of suspicion rested upon her character, but what an unscrupulous and malignant disposition may attach to the most blameless individuals. The ill-fated Matilda wrote with a diamond in her mis-

fortunes on one of the windows of Fredericsborg Castle, the line—

'Lord, keep me innocent, make others great.'

"The pane of glass bearing the inscription is protected from injury by a screen of wire."

"The scene of the tragedy of Hamlet is laid at Elsinore. But, using poetic license, Shakspeare has transferred the locality of the Prince of Denmark hither from the peninsula of Jutland, where he lived, reigned, died, and was buried. With the same liberty, the dramatist did not concern himself to depict the natural features of the selected site, even supposing that he was accurately acquainted with them. No spot in the neighbourhood answers to the described place of Ophelia's death:—

'There is a willow grows aseasont the brook,
That shows his hoar leaves in the glassy stream.'

"Or to the language of Horatio:—

'The morn in russet mantle clad,
Walks o'er the dew of yon high eastern hill.'

"Or to the words of the same party, when dissuading the prince from following his ghostly guide:—

'What, if it tempt you toward the flood, my lord,
Or to the dreadful summit of the cliff,
That beetles o'er his base into the sea?
And there assume some other horrible form,
Which might deprive your sovereignty of reason,
And draw you into madness? think of it:
The very place puts toys of desperation,
Without more motive, into every brain,
That looks so many fathoms to the sea,
And hears it roar beneath.'

"Elsinore has no 'Shakspeare's Cliff' like Dover, nor is there one within many a mile of it at all resembling the dizzy precipice described above. Beyond repeated mention of the name, there is nothing in the tragedy which we can identify with the place, except notices which are equally applicable to a thousand maritime localities. Still, as the selected scene of a splendid work of genius, it will ever be associated in the minds of Englishmen with the bard of Avon, and the obscure Jutish prince he has immortalised. The line in Campbell's famous ode on the battle of Copenhagen—'Thy wild and stormy steep, Elsinore'—is of course equally a poetic fiction."

Mr. Milner's 'Baltic' is a very useful and a very entertaining book. He has collected his materials with great research, and worked them out with admirable skill and judgment.

Egypt's Place in Universal History: An Historical Investigation in Five Books.
By Christian C. J. Bunsen, D.Ph., and D.C.L. Translated from the German by Charles H. Cottrell, Esq., M.A. Longman and Co.

The illustrious author of this work, whom we may now more properly designate by his academical title as Dr. Bunsen, since he has renounced his diplomatic character, published three volumes of the German original in 1843-5. The English translation, which appeared in 1848, comprised the first and third volumes of the German, the third being, indeed, chiefly a collection of documents. Hitherto, the second volume of the original has remained untranslated.

Having formed the design of tracing the history of Egypt and assigning its place in universal history from the earliest times to the age of Alexander, Dr. Bunsen began by an inquiry into those characteristics of the nation which necessarily precede all written and positive history, and yet stamp it with features which subsequent impressions only modify but never efface. These are language, writing, and religious belief. His first volume, therefore, was chiefly occupied with an analysis of the Egyptian mythology, the grammar and vocabulary of the Coptic language, and the hieroglyphic system as dis-

covered by Young and Champollion, and further developed by Rosellini and Birch. To this was added a critical estimate of the ancient authorities for Egyptian history from Herodotus to Syncellus. Having thus cleared the ground by preliminary investigations, he proceeds in the volume now translated, to construct the chronological framework of Egyptian history. The filling up of this framework by a continuous narrative will complete his original design, but this portion of his work has not yet appeared in the German.

The principal characteristics of Dr. Bunsen's chronology of ancient Egypt, are his attributing to the nation and its monuments a much higher antiquity than is consistent with our commonly received systems, and his division of Egyptian history into three great periods, which he calls the Old, the Middle, and the New Monarchy. In the present volume he has instituted an elaborate analysis of the royal monuments of Egypt, and a comparison of them with the written authorities, and from their joint results presents us with the regal succession from Menes, the founder of the Old monarchy, to the final destruction of the New by the Persians. In his analysis of the authorities for the Old monarchy, one great object of his labours is to reconcile Manetho with Apollodorus, whose discrepancies are so glaring, that critics in general have despaired of harmonizing them, and have been content to adopt one to the exclusion of the other. It is impossible to give the details of this analysis, but we must confess that the result is not satisfactory. It is attained only by a boldness of conjectural emendation of the text of Apollodorus, which takes away everything like historical certainty from a scheme which is founded upon it. In reconciling the lists also with the monuments, much ingenuity is expended without any decisive result, and the conviction which we think will remain on the mind of a reader not pre-occupied by a theory is, that it is impossible to combine the imperfect and broken materials of this early period into a dynastic succession, like that of the Ptolemies and the Caesars.

Another important question in reference to the Old monarchy is, whether the dynasties of Manetho were all successive, or some of them contemporaneous—a vital point as regards chronology, since if we add together reigns of co-existing sovereigns of Upper and Lower Egypt, and consider the total as the sum of the period, we fall into as great an error as if we added the reigns of the kings of Scotland, the Princes of Wales, and the Kings of England, to obtain the length of the interval between the conquest and Edward I. According to Bunsen, the kingdom founded by Menes remained united for 190 years, but was then divided into a Thinite and a Memphite kingdom, the former ruling the upper, the latter the lower country, each lasting (a startling coincidence!) exactly 224 years. At the end of this time, the two dynasties were reunited. Egypt became again one powerful monarchy, and the records of its power are the pyramids and other mighty works of the succeeding dynasties, from the fourth to the twelfth. One of the greatest of these works was performed by the sovereign in whom the Old monarchy was about to expire—the Ammenemes of Manetho, who constructed the labyrinth and the pyramid which stands near it, and has left his name in numerous repetitions on the remains first

thoroughly explored by the Prussian archaeologists. A sovereign or two sovereigns of the same name were the authors of the great works of the Fyom, which under the designation of the Lake and Canal of Moeris have been the subject of such discordant descriptions by the ancients, and such various hypotheses by the moderns. A very valuable part of this volume is the minute investigation which Dr. Bunsen has given to this subject. It is much fuller than the German original, and he candidly acknowledges that further consideration has removed the objections which he formerly felt against the discovery of Linant, that the Lake of Moeris was an artificial reservoir in the centre of the province of Fyom.

How was this powerful monarchy overthrown at the moment when it had given such proofs of science and strength as these works exhibit? No part of Dr. Bunsen's work has been received with more incredulity and opposition than that which relates to the Middle monarchy. According to him the Old monarchy was terminated by the irruption of certain warlike nomadic tribes, who took possession of Memphis and Lower Egypt, and drove the native kings into the Thebaid and the adjacent part of Nubia, where they remained for nine centuries, their dynasties constituting the Middle monarchy. He expresses himself with no little warmth in respect to some of his opponents, who have endeavoured to excite against him a theological prejudice, as if the antiquity which these nine centuries would necessarily involve, were inconsistent with the common chronology of the Deluge. These, however, are not the only readers of his work to whom the duration which he assigned to the Shepherds' dominion has appeared incredible; it has been called in question on grounds purely critical and historical. To these objectors he replies,—

"What greater difficulty is there in supposing that an indigenous, powerful race retained possession of Lower Egypt for five hundred or a thousand years, during which the native princes were tributary to them, than that they did so for two or three generations? And such, according to Manetho's explicit statement, was the actual relation between the foreigners and the native princes. The notion of a total subversion of Egyptian life and manners is wholly unwarranted—a pure fancy. Although tributary, the greater part of the land of the Pharaohs obeyed its native princes. The seat of the Shepherd sovereignty was a fortified camp. They held possession of Memphis; but their residence was a vast fortress on the frontiers of the Syrian Desert, not far from Old Pelusium, the very spot, probably, where, in the latter centuries of the Old empire, the Herakleopolitan Princes founded an empire of their own. The southernmost point they occupied was the primeval royal residence of Lower Egypt, Memphis. From hence (says Manetho) they held the Egyptians in subjection and took tribute of their princes. Not only did the Thebans, then, continue to exercise the sovereignty in the Thebaid as princes of a tributary Egyptian empire, but also the Xoites in the Delta. Manetho expressly mentions several tributary princes; and had he not done so, we should have been obliged to assume the existence of a North-Egyptian dynasty. The Hyksos, according to Egyptian tradition, perpetrated many acts of cruelty, and persecuted the religion of the country. But the sequel of the narrative, as to the tributary condition of the princes and their subsequent revolt, shows the course of events to have been the same there as in China. The peaceable habits and good order of an agricultural and civilized people in time softened down and subdued the rude and hostile conqueror. At first he finds it convenient to take tribute from those whom he has subjugated

by force. This, however, implies that he allows them to follow their customary habits and mode of life, as indeed he must do if he expects to receive tribute from them. By degrees the charm of good order and social enjoyment begins to have its effect even upon him, and the barbarian becomes more gentle because better informed. If, in addition to this, we reflect with what far greater tenacity men in the olden time retained their long-established habits and customs, instead of being struck with the improbability of such a state of things, we think it will be found perfectly comprehensible."

There is great weight in these observations as addressed to those who wholly deny the existence of a conquest of Egypt and the establishment of a Middle monarchy in the Thebaid; but we think few who reflect will consider that it makes no difference in point of credibility whether the occupation by the Shepherds lasted two or three generations, or five centuries, or a thousand years. The improbability that the occupation by the Shepherds should have left no permanent traces in Egypt, increases in such a high ratio with the increase of the time, as at last to amount to a negative proof.

With the commencement of the New monarchy, we reach a period of the historical character of which there can be no longer any doubt. A series of monuments nearly unbroken, supported by written documents, attests the existence of its sovereigns, their transactions, and the chronology of their reigns. All the events which connect Egypt with the history of the world, the Exodus of the Jews, the colonization of Greece, the expeditions of Amenophis, Thothmes, and Rameses, belong to it. There are, indeed, many thorny questions arising out of the lists and the monuments, and these are discussed with great acuteness by Bunsen; but they are not greater than might be expected, if we consider the manner in which Egyptian history has arisen, and can throw no reasonable doubt on the truth of its great outlines. He sums up his labours in the following words:—

"Thus, by carrying out our own system in the treatment of the lists, and by comparing the names and dates with the monuments, we have reached our goal at last, without doubt or difficulty, to some as our path might be at the outset. Manetho's Chronology of the New empire has been restored, and, we may venture to hope, has everywhere been most conclusively verified by contemporaneous monuments. All that remains to be done is the far more agreeable task of giving an historical exposition of the reigns and dynasties so adjusted, a task reserved for the subsequent volume."

This task, we trust, he will be enabled soon to execute, in the retirement to which political events have led him to withdraw. It is impossible to allude to these events without regretting that by their means we have lost the presence of an honourable and high-minded man, an accomplished archaeologist, a sound scholar, and a genuine lover of the truth. But it was inevitable. While Prussia pursued an upright policy, her diplomacy could not be better administered than by Bunsen; when it became selfish, tortuous, and intriguing, he was no longer a suitable representative of his country.

NOTICES.

Sonnets on Anglo-Saxon History. By Ann Hawshaw. John Chapman.

Is a series of about a hundred sonnets, the accomplished author gives a comprehensive and interesting sketch of Anglo-Saxon history. Few of the

facts of importance recorded by the old chroniclers are here omitted, and references occur to traditional tales, which, if less authentic, are now inseparable from our early English annals. Prefixed to each sonnet is an extract from some author of note, or some explanatory remarks by which the thread of the metrical story is sustained. Some of the sonnets are written with spirit and force, and the poetry is pleasantly made the vehicle of historical facts and allusions. Here is one, with its introductory explanation:—"When he (Edwin, King of Northumbria) inquired of the high priest (Coifi) who should first profane the altars and temples of their idols, with the enclosures that were about them, he answered, 'I; for who can more properly than myself destroy those things which I worshipped through ignorance?' * * * As soon as he drew near the temple he profaned the same, casting into it the spear which he held; * * * the place where the idols were is still shown, not far from York, to the eastward, beyond the River Derwent, and is now called Godmunningham. See *Bede's Ecclesiastical History.*"

CHRISTIANITY RECEIVED BY THE SAXONS.

"'Tis easy on the accustomed path to tread,
Worn by the feet of generations past;
But he who treads it first, or treads it last,
Venturing where all is silent as the dead—
Or lingering there when all besides are fled—
These are the lofty spirits who unfold
New views of greatness, or preserve the old.
Both noble, but by different natures led.
The Saxon story tells of one who hung
His fateful arrow at the idol's shrine,
While others round the mouldering ruins hung,
Whose desolation was to them divine:
Types of two classes who must ever be
Within a land that would be strong, yet free."

We give also the last of six sonnets on King Alfred:—

"One hero fills a century, and the age
An Alfred filled might well be satisfied;
He slept within his tomb the Saxon's pride,
And History writ his name upon her page,
And hailed him patriot, statesman, poet, sage,
And Nature, in his children, bade him still
Live for the land he loved, and guard from ill
The shores round which the northern sea-steeds rage;
Son, daughter, grandson, echoes of his fame,
Bore on to after years, until they died
On coward hearts, and not that hero name
Could rouse to manly hope or noble pride:
Priest-ridden, slavish, down they bow the head
To the proud churchman, or the despot's tread."

From some of the historical readings and reflections of the author we may be disposed to dissent, but we commend her book as much for its historical information as its poetical merit.

The Tricolor on the Atlas; or, Algeria and the French Conquest. By Francis Pulszky. Nelson and Sons.

THIS volume does not pretend to originality, but bears on the title-page to be "from the German of Dr. Wagner, and other sources." In a prefatory note the editor gives this account of Dr. Wagner's work, and of the other sources from whence he has derived his materials. "Among the tourists," says M. Pulszky, "who have given us an account of the Regency of Algeria, the Bavarian naturalist, Dr. Moritz Wagner, has distinguished himself by the liveliness of his descriptions, the earnestness of his researches, and the frankness with which he has expressed his views. He remained for three years in the Regency, and published in 1841 an amusing and instructive account of his journey. A great portion of his work having become antiquated, I have condensed his first volume, translated his second, added an account of later events, from the capture of Constantine to the surrender of Abd-el-Kader, and given a general view of the present state of the French possessions on the north coast of Africa. I have made careful use of the most recent French works on Algeria, and principally of the official Blue Book, published by imperial authority in 1853, under the title 'Tableau de la Situation des Etablissements Français dans l'Algérie, 1850-2.'" From the sources here indicated M. Pulszky has compiled a concise and authentic description of the province, and a sketch of its history down to the present time. Part of the volume is

occupied with an account of the native races of the Regency, which will be interesting to ethnologists. The volume forms one of Nelson's series of works published under the title of the Modern Library.

The Literary Remains of the Rev. Thomas Price, Vicar of Cwmdd, Brecon. Vol. I. Llandovery: Rees. London: Longman and Co.

THE late Rev. Thomas Price was well known to all connected with the Principality, as one of the most learned and industrious of Welsh scholars. Besides his frequent contributions to periodical literature, he published a History of Wales, 'Hanes Cymru,' which is of high repute among his countrymen, and, in 1847, an English volume, on 'The Geographical Progress of Civilization.' He left a large quantity of manuscripts, the accumulation of fifty years' study and research, the more important portions of which his friends and executors propose to publish, in two volumes, with a biographical memoir of the author. The larger part of the first volume is occupied with essays on the Bardic Poetry of Wales, from the sixth to the fifteenth century. These papers were written for competition at Eisteddfodau, with a view to subsequent publication. The translations of the bardic verses are given literally in English prose. There is an essay on the influence which the Welsh traditions have had on the literature of Europe, and other papers on the oral and written language of Wales. The Tour in Brittany, with which the volume commences, presents many interesting points of resemblance between the people of that province and the inhabitants of Wales and Cornwall, though Mr. Price's own views of the similarity are dubiously expressed. Much of what Mr. Price has written, in his various works, will be little understood or relished beyond the pale of the Principality, but there is also much that will be found interesting to the general reader, and instructive to those engaged in philological or antiquarian studies. The work is illustrated with several engravings. The memoir of Mr. Price will be prefixed to the second volume.

Christianity in Turkey: a Narrative of the Protestant Reformation of the Armenian Church. By the Rev. H. G. O. Dwight. Nisbet and Co.

MR. DWIGHT has for many years been connected with the American mission to the Armenians of Turkey. He has collected much information respecting the past history of the Armenian people, their character, religion, and social condition. The whole number of Armenians in the world is estimated at about three millions. Probably two-thirds of these are inhabitants of Turkey. Large numbers are found in Russia, especially in the Georgian provinces; many also in Persia, and a few in India, Burnah, and other remote parts of the East. "Wherever they go," says Mr. Dwight, "they are marked for their enterprise, ability, and intelligence, and it is acknowledged on all hands that they possess the elements of a superior character." The object of the present volume is to record the principal circumstances of a reformation which is still in progress in the Armenian Church, chiefly through the instrumentality of American missionaries. Their labours seem lately to have been attended with remarkable success, and there is now at Constantinople a professedly 'Evangelical Armenian Church.' Besides versions of the sacred scriptures, the American mission-board has published various books in the Armeno-Turkish and in the modern Armenian languages, of which a list is given in an appendix to the present volume, which contains some additions to the matter found in the American edition of the work.

SUMMARY.

OF Oliver Goldsmith's ever-fresh and ever-welcome *Vicar of Wakefield*, a beautiful edition has been published, with illustrations by Absolon (Grant and Griffiths). In the typography, which is very superior, the imitation of the style of the period of the tale is agreeable to the reader. The wood-engravings are well executed. Such an edition of the 'Vicar of Wakefield' comes well from 'the corner of St. Paul's Churchyard,' where the present publishers occupy the shop of Newbery, so

famous in the annals of the times of Johnson and Goldsmith.

The subject is too much involved in religious controversy to admit of our more than mentioning the title of Mr. Wilberforce's work on the Royal supremacy, *'An Inquiry into the Principles of Church Authority,* with reasons for recalling my subscription to the Royal Supremacy,' by the Rev. R. J. Wilberforce, M.A. (Longman and Co.) The volume contains a very full examination of the question from the ecclesiastical point of view occupied by Mr. Wilberforce. For the scriptural and for the political aspects of the controversy, fuller illustrations and arguments must be elsewhere sought. We must also merely give the title of a treatise on *Scriptural Predestination*, the doctrine briefly stated and considered, in its tendency to promote unity, by Robert Knight, Perpetual Curate of Warton (Bagster and Sons).

Of the successful efforts made, in various parts of France, to diminish Sunday trading and business, some interesting notices occur, in a pamphlet by Mr. Charles Cochrane, on *The Sabbath Movement in France*, in 1853, 1854 (Houlston and Stone-man). Mr. Cochrane deserves praise for his indefatigable labour and honourable zeal in promoting sanatory and social reforms, both in this country and abroad.

A third edition, enlarged, is published of *The Watering-Places of England*, considered with reference to their medical topography, by Edwin Lee (Churchill). The following places are separately described in the book:—Places of winter resort—Brighton, Worthing, Southampton, Hastings, St. Leonards, Dover, Sandgate, Bournemouth, Undercliff, Torquay, Teignmouth, Dawlish, Exmouth, Budleigh-Salterton, Sidmouth. Places of mineral springs—Bath, Melksham, Clifton, Buxton, Matlock, Cheltenham, Malvern, Leamington, Beulah, Harrogate, Scarborough, Dinsdale, Mulridge, and Ashby de la Zouch.

In Chapman's Library for the People (John Chapman) is reprinted, with additions, from the 'Westminster Review,' an article on *Partnership with Limited Liability*, in which the principles and advantages of such a system, legally sanctioned, are fully and ably discussed.

In Chambers's Series of Educational Books (W. and R. Chambers), *A Geographical Text-book of Scotland*, with a map; an *Introduction to Grammar*, and other useful little manuals, are published, containing as much and as good matter as often is found in school-books of much greater price and larger size.

For the use of schools and students is published an illustrated volume on *The Steam-Engine, its History and Mechanism*, being descriptions and illustrations of the stationary, locomotive, and marine engine, by Robert Scott Burn (Ingram and Co.) The work contains much miscellaneous information on the steam-engine, in a form adapted for popular use. The illustrations are numerous, and greatly facilitate the study of the text.

Part First is issued of a *History of the Chartist Movement*, by R. G. Gammage (Holoake), from which information, apparently authentic, may be gathered as to the origin and objects of that agitation, and the character and designs of its leaders.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Anvari (The) Suhaila, transl. by E. B. Eastwick, rl. 8vo, £2 2s.
Arnold's (T. K.) Grovesend's Materials, 8vo, cl., 3rd ed., 7s. 6d.
Arvon; or, the Trials, by C. M. Charles, 2 vols. p. 8vo, cl., 15s.
Brewster's (M.M.) Sunbeams in the Cottage, post 8vo, 3s. 6d.
Carlisle's Diary in Turkish and Greek Waters, p. 8vo, cl., 10s. 6d.
Cooper's (J. F.) Headsman, 12mo, boards, 1s. 6d.
Dana's (J.D.) System of Mineralogy, 2 vols. in one, 4th ed., £1 4s.
Davies' (H.) Phys. Diagnosis of Heart, &c., 2nd ed., p. 8vo, 8s.
De la Motte's Photography, 12mo, cloth, 4s. 6d.
Dew of Hermon, 2nd edition, 32mo, cloth, 2s.
Ellisot's (C. J.) Commentary on Epistle to the Galatians, 7s. 6d.
Goulburn's (E.M.) Devotional Study of the Scriptures, 3s. 6d.
Guyot's (Rev. D. G.) Spiritual Reflections, Vol. 4, 32mo, cl., 3s.
Guyot's (A.) Earth and Man, new edition, 12mo, cloth, 2s.
Handley Cross, 8vo, cloth, 18s.
Lee's (H.) Pathological and Surgical Observations, 8vo, 7s. 6d.
Lorimer's (J.) Universities of Scotland, 8vo, boards, 2s. 6d.
McCheyne's (Rev. R. M.) Basket of Fragments, 12mo, cl., 4s.
McFarlane's (Rev. J.) Hiding Place, cr. 8vo, cl., 3rd edit., 5s.
Madcock's (A.B.) Pulmonary Consumption, 6th ed., 8vo, 6s. 6d.

Martin's (Rev. S.) Memoirs, by Rev. J. Duns, 12mo, cl., 3s. 6d.
Michelson's England since the Accession of Victoria, 8vo, 6s.
Monro's (Rev. E.) Basil the Schoolboy, fcap. 8vo, cloth, 3s. 6d.
Mossman's (Rev. T. W.) Glossary, fcap. 8vo, cloth, 1s. 6d.
Palgrave's (P. T.) Idylls and Songs, 12mo, cloth, 3s. 6d.
Plurality of Worlds, 3rd edition, post 8vo, cloth, 6s.
Sketches and Scraps by Y. S., crown 8vo, cloth, gilt, 2s. 6d.
Smith's (E. O.) Bertha and Lily, p. 8vo, cl., 2s. sewed, 1s. 6d.
— (Rev. S.) Moral Philosophy, new edit., fcap., cl., 7s.
Whittings from the West, by Abel Log, post 8vo, cl., 7s. 6d.
Wordsworth's Latin Accidence, 12mo, cloth, new edition, 2s.
Wright's Eton Greek Grammar, 7th edition, 12mo, cloth, 4s.

DR. SAMUEL PHILLIPS.

WE have this week the mournful duty of announcing the sudden death, from the rupture of a blood-vessel, on Saturday last, at the early age of thirty-nine, of a gentleman little known to the world of letters by name, but whose writings in the department of newspaper criticism have had a wide circulation and elicited powerful interest. In the columns of 'The Times' during the last ten years, and during the last three years in our own columns, have appeared occasional reviews or essays, chiefly biographical, distinguished from all others by their terseness and dramatic eloquence; and if we venture presently to name some of them, it is only because Dr. Phillips's literary labours were so entirely of this anonymous kind, that it is necessary to the writer's fame they should be mentioned. Dr. Phillips was not gifted with much inventive genius or classical erudition, but he possessed a fine memory, a picturesque imagination, and admirable critical judgment. His career, though short, has been one of almost romantic adventure.

About thirty years ago there dwelt in St. James's Street, and afterwards in the new Regent Street, a bustling and somewhat jovial tradesman of the Jewish persuasion, with a shop gaily stored with glass, especially lamps and chandeliers, and a family of several olive-complexioned curly-headed little sons and daughters. One of these, the subject of our memoir, presented indications at a very early age of a talent which began to develop itself in spouting and mimicry, in conjuring and in tricks with cards; and from the connexion which the chandelier-maker had with the theatres and saloons of the aristocracy, opportunities were not wanting of bringing the juvenile phenomenon into notice. He was invited to perform and recite before the Duke of Sussex; and Mrs. Bartley, wife of the veteran impersonator of Falstaff, who took a fancy to him, taught him her charming acting recitation, with music, of Collins's 'Ode to the Passions.' On one occasion he gave this recital, in character, on the boards of the Haymarket Theatre; and often did Samuel Phillips relate in after life how she took him up in her arms and kissed him. On the 23rd of June, 1829, on the occasion of a benefit given to a Hebrew friend, Mr. Isaacs, a popular singer at Covent Garden, an act of *Richard III.* was introduced, with the part of the hero "by Master Phillips, a young gentleman only twelve years old, whose extraordinary abilities have been much admired at select parties of the nobility." The performance was regarded by the profession as a clever juvenile imitation of Mr. Kean, but the father's admiration of the young tragedian was unbounded, and he had him speedily instructed in other Shakspearian characters. "I went last night," said the elder Phillips one day to a theatrical friend, who is still living, and well remembers the anecdote, "to see Mr. Charles Kemble in *Hamlet*. It was very beautiful, but, Lor! bless you, Sir," he added, with glowing satisfaction, "it's nothing like my boy Sam's." The boy Sam, however, had a wise father, nevertheless; for at the advice of the fine actor whose *Hamlet* he was thought to have surpassed, he was removed from the stage, and lived, through much bodily suffering which he knew to be mortal, to become one of the most powerful writers of the day. Mr. Phillips, the elder, now consulted Mr. Kemble on the desirability of making his son an actor,—"Do no such thing," was the sensible reply; "there is more stuff in your boy than you think; send him to college." The father did so, for in the session of 1832-33 we find him assiduously preparing for his collegiate studies

in the new London University. "Well do I remember young Phillips," writes a fellow-student to us; "a long, lithe, swartly, Spanish-looking semi-man of perhaps seventeen, attending the class of rhetoric and belles lettres, yet full of actors and green-rooms, the merriest, clearest-eyed, and gentlest-hearted of our party."

During his stay at the London University, Dr. Phillips's religious views underwent a change, and he repaired to Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, with the view, it was whispered, of studying for the church. Be that as it may, the next few years of his life were devoted sedulously to learning, and the latter term of this period was spent in Germany, at the University of Göttingen, from whence he had the honour, about a twelvemonth since, to receive his Doctor's degree. At the opening of the Crystal Palace at Sydenham, the once tragic phenomenon of Covent Garden might have been seen, a distinguished man of letters, on bended knees before Her Majesty, in the scarlet academic gown of a Doctor of Laws. It has been said that Dr. Phillips "accepted the office of private tutor in a noble family, and travelled through most of the European countries in discharge of his duty to his employers," but it was not so. What probably gave rise to this supposition is, that he read for two or three months, as is not uncommon among gentlemen, with Lord Francis Bruce, at the family seat in Wiltshire of the Marquis of Aylesbury; but this was in the vacation of 1844, when he had entered with popularity on his new literary career, and was, in fact, engaged in writing for 'The Times.' Three or four years before this, Dr. Phillips married and settled in the vicinity of the metropolis, resolved to live, if possible, by his pen. It should, however, be mentioned to his honour, that his father having died, and the glass business beginning to fail, he made a strong effort to restore it to prosperity, and worked away for a time on the top of a high stool in the shop in Regent-street, in his own earnest manner, at the accounts, thinking, alas! that he could avert the impending vicissitudes of his mother's trade. Dr. Phillips was beginning to form a connexion with the daily press, but the emolument at the outset was precarious, and in 1841-2 he bethought himself of writing a novel. Bowed down in spirits with severe bodily illness, threatening consumption, he had come to his last guinea, (we had it from his own lips,) when he transmitted to 'Blackwood's Magazine' a specimen of his 'Caleb Stukeley.' A week elapsed without an answer, and his too sensitive heart was beginning to fail, when a letter arrived from the Edinburgh publishers, enclosing him, along with words of kindly encouragement, a 50l. note. This tale which was continued in a series of articles, presents some admirable sketches of college life; but it is inferior in literary merit to the critical essays of the same author. Dr. Phillips was a man of extraordinary sanguine temperament, playful and gentle as a child in his sympathies and affections, but possessed of the most ardent elasticity of spirits. It was more the intrinsic generosity of this act of the Messrs. Blackwood, than the success of his novel, that stimulated his energies to more enlarged literary exertion. This was the turning point in his career, and it elicited a thirst for fame, which his contemporaries cherished and time speedily rewarded. With the assistance of Mr. Alderman Salomons, Dr. Phillips purchased the 'John Bull,' but he only retained it a twelvemonth. Theodore Hook may have had more wit than his successor, but he was no match for him in forethought and business alacrity. For two years Dr. Phillips wrote two leaders a-week for the 'Morning Herald,' and he was variously engaged for the provincial newspapers, but 'The Times' has been the chief organ or his literary triumphs. The conductors of that journal formed a high opinion of Dr. Phillips's critical judgment and of his eloquence and imagination, and most of its literary papers for the last ten years have been from his pen. Among the most strikingly dramatic of these we may mention the eventful histories of Lord Nelson and Lady Hamilton, and of

Louis Philippe and the French Revolution, published in 1849 and 1850. The picturesque skill with which the scenes are grouped and narrated in these essays without violence to truth, has perhaps never been surpassed. The discoveries of Mr. Layard at Nineveh furnished Dr. Phillips a fertile theme for his imagination, and he would take up a stray eccentricity, like the butcheries of Mr. Gordon Cumming in Africa, with amusing and vigorous power. His favourite subject, however, was the biography of poets and artists. Here his imaginative faculties found more ample material for their display, and the tenderness and deep commiserative feeling with which he touched upon the infirmities of his heroes, gave assurance to the world that the words spoken of them came forth from a heart full of sympathy and truthfulness. Who that has read his essays on Swift, Southey, Sterling, Keats, Chantrey, Haydon, and Tom Moore, can fail to have been moved by the force and exquisite delineation of their several characters and writings. The shortcomings of the authors and editors of the respective works have, too, been most cleverly pointed out, either with a dash of cutting sarcasm, such as fell to the lot of Lord John Russell for his indifferent editorship of the journals of Moore, or with indignant remonstrance, such as Lord Holland laid himself open to for the publication of the worthless 'Reminiscences' of the nephew of Fox. One of the severest and most talented instances of biographical criticism from the pen of Dr. Phillips was the recent political memoir in 'The Times' of Mr. Disraeli, but we must confess to having perused it with feelings of regret. Of much greater service to literature were his occasional articles on Cheap Books. He swept away by the force of his pen a great deal of the trash and nonsense that crowded the railway stalls, and a new and more healthy issue of periodicals was commenced in the 'Traveller's Library' of Messrs. Longman, and the 'Reading for the Rail' of Mr. Murray, started by a selection from the very literary essays we have just been speaking of in 'The Times.'

Of the writings of Dr. Phillips in our own columns, we may refer to his review of the 'Autobiography of William Jerdan,' as a noble and eloquent vindication of the literary character, written with a feeling and reluctant pen; and admirable examples of criticism are presented in his notices of a little book published by Mr. Bogue, called 'The Men of the Time,' and in Mr. Holland's 'Memorials of Chantrey.' Dr. Phillips has been accused of being extravagantly severe against faults comparatively venial, and what critic of like sensitiveness and enthusiasm has not? A review in our columns, from his pen, of Mr. Heworth Dixon's 'Life of Admiral Blake' is, perhaps, open to this objection, and the same may be said of his criticisms in 'The Times,' of the writings of Dickens and Thackeray. Among the remaining papers by Dr. Phillips, in the 'Literary Gazette,' we may mention, as of striking merit, his reviews of 'Letters of Percy Bysshe Shelley,' Dr. Gutzlaff's 'Life of Taou-Kwang, late Emperor of China,' Professor Creasy's 'Invasions of England,' Mr. Peter Cunningham's 'Story of Nell Gwynne,' Bristed's 'Five Years in our English Universities,' and Mrs. Roman's 'Filia Dolorosa.'

The chief occupation of Dr. Phillips during the last two years of his life arose out of an engagement which he entered into with the Crystal Palace Company, to take charge of all that pertained to literature, and he was officially termed the Literary Director. It was not merely for compiling the Crystal Palace Guide Book that the Company were indebted to him, but for his advice and aid in almost every stage of the enterprise. He was among the first who propounded this great scheme, and for a long while he filled the responsible office of treasurer. Well do we remember his remarking, on taking luncheon one day at our table "I have this morning paid into the Bank the first subscribed capital of the Crystal Palace Company—four hundred thousand pounds, in one lump." His connexion with 'The Times' was, moreover, of advantage to both parties. The journal was always favoured with exclusive intelli-

gence of the Company's proceedings, and the Company always found their proceedings reported *en couleur de rose*. We wish we could throw a veil over the arguments put forth in favour of Sunday opening. In August of last year Dr. Phillips conceived the idea of forming an Assyrian Excavation Society, and such was the energy that he brought to bear on the matter, that it was speedily sanctioned with the support of Prince Albert, Mr. Layard, and a numerous committee of noblemen and gentlemen, and subscriptions were in a short time received, of sufficient amount to send out a staff of excavators to Nineveh, to make further discoveries. The favourable result of his mission has been already recorded in our columns, and we trust that Dr. Phillips's friend and co-secretary, Lord Mandeville, will follow the matter up with vigour.

During this active literary career, short as it was, Dr. Phillips contrived not only to live in comparative affluence, but to make a handsome provision for his family; and all this time he was the doomed victim of consumption, with spitting of blood. His life hung upon a thread, which might be snapped at any moment, and every morning he woke with the thought, we cannot say anxiety, what could he do more for the welfare of those he must soon leave behind. Often did he show us, with almost childlike glee, his neatly-written account of savings and investments; and the God of the widow mercifully prolonged his life and sustained his energies until this desire of his heart was realized. He was engaged at the time of his death in writing a Christmas story, but it is not sufficiently advanced for publication. A multitude of literary plans were opening out before his sanguine vision, but the voice whose warning had been long heard came, and he was summoned into the presence of his Maker.

TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

It will not be forgotten that the French Government, two or three years ago, sent three gentlemen to make scientific and artistic researches in Media, Mesopotamia, and Babylonia. One of them, M. Jules Oppert, has just returned to Paris, and it appears from his report that he and his colleagues thought it advisable to begin by confining themselves to the exploration of ancient Babylon. This task was one of immense difficulty, and it was enhanced by the excessive heat of the sun, by privations of all kinds, and by the incessant hostility of the Arabs. After a while M. Oppert's two colleagues fell ill, so that all the labours of the expedition devolved on him. He first of all made excavations of the ruins of the famous suspended gardens of Babylon, which are now known by the name of the Hall of Amran-ibn-Ali; and he obtained in them a number of curious architectural and other objects, which are destined to be placed in the Louvre at Paris, and which will be described hereafter. He next, in obedience to the special orders of his Government, took measures for ascertaining the precise extent of Babylon,—a matter which the reader is aware has always been open to controversy. He has succeeded in making a series of minute surveys, and in drawing up detailed plans of the immense city. His opinion is, that even the largest calculations as to its vast extent are not exaggerated; and he puts down that extent at the astounding figure of 500 square kilometres, French measure (the square kilometre is 1196 square yards). This is very nearly eighteen times the size of Paris. But of course he does not say that this enormous area was occupied, or anything like it; it comprised within the walls huge tracts of cultivated lands and gardens, for supplying the population with food in the event of a siege. M. Oppert has discovered the Babylonian and Assyrian measures, and by means of them has ascertained exactly what part of the city was inhabited, and what part was in fields and gardens. On the limits of the town, properly so called, stands at present the flourishing town of Hillah. This town, situated on the banks of the Euphrates, is built with bricks from the ruins, and many of the household utensils and per-

sonal ornaments of its inhabitants are taken from them also. Beyond this town is the vast fortress, strengthened by Nebuchadnezzar, and in the midst of it is the royal palace—itsself almost as large as a town. M. Oppert says that he was also able to distinguish the ruins of the famous Tower of Babel—they are most imposing, and stand on a site formerly called Borsippa, or the Tower of Languages. The royal town, situated on the two banks of the Euphrates, covers a space of nearly seven square kilometres, and contains most interesting ruins. Amongst them are those of the royal palace, the fortress, and the suspended gardens. In the collection of curiosities which M. Oppert has brought away with him is a vase, which he declares to date from the time of one of the Chaldean sovereigns named Narambel, that is, somewhere about one thousand six hundred years before Jesus Christ; also a number of copies of cuneiform inscriptions, which he has every reason to believe that he will be able to decipher.

The authorities of the Post-Office have issued instructions for increasing the weight from two to three ounces allowed for the transmission of publications bearing newspaper stamps, not strictly newspapers, but they have encumbered the privilege with such conditions as to make it scarcely available. It is required 'That no such publication shall have any cover or outside wrapper, and that the stamp shall be affixed to the title-page, or any other page of the publication (provided it be exposed to view when folded), which page shall form a part of the sheet on which the publication is printed;' and it has been decided that this regulation 'forbids the use of a wrapper, of whatever colour, and restricts the publication in every case to a single sheet.' The Booksellers' Association of Edinburgh have addressed a memorial to the Postmaster-General, pointing out the incompatibility of these requirements with the mechanical details of such publications, which are mostly in wrappers, and often with illustrative plates, to say nothing of the damage inflicted upon them by this rude official branding and soiling, and we trust that steps will be at once taken to respect the public convenience.

The 'Brussels Herald' announces the death, on the 10th instant, of Baron de Stassart, a devoted friend of literature and the arts, one of the most active members, and the frequently nominated President of the Royal Academy, a warm encourager of young literary aspirants, and one of the ornaments of Belgian literature. Two discourses were delivered over his tomb at Laeken, one by M. Quetelet, the secretary of the Royal Academy, and the other by M. Van Bommel, one of the Professors of the University of Brussels. "This day twenty-one years," said Professor Quetelet, "the Royal Academy of Belgium associated in its labours the worthy *confrère* whose mortal remains we are about to consign to the earth. In inscribing him amongst its members, it was desirous of testifying esteem for an elegant and talented writer, for an enlightened functionary who had filled highly important posts, and for a man eminently obliging, and whose kindness of disposition knew no bounds. The choice was one which the Academy ever rejoiced at, and it loved to proclaim its satisfaction by calling him to fill as often as possible the post of President." The deceased was born, says the 'Brussels Herald,' at Malines, on the 2nd of September, 1780. He filled several important posts under Napoleon, and in Belgium those of Governor of the provinces of Namur and Brabant, and President of the Senate. His works were lately published in Brussels in a collected form. His extensive library and valuable collection of autograph letters are bequeathed to the Royal Academy.

It was stated, some time ago, that the French government had ordered the collection and classification of all the departmental and other archives which for years have been unaccountably neglected, though they must needs be of the very highest historical and literary interest. This great task is being executed with as much promptitude as circumstances permit. In the great revolution a vast number of the provincial and other archives

were collected at Paris for some purpose; but they were left to rot until the Restoration, when it struck some wiseacre that, as they were in parchment, they would cut up admirably for bags to contain powder and shot. For this ignoble purpose they were applied with great industry until about a year ago, when a *servant* pointed out the scandalous profanation, and it was put an end to. But the loss of valuable records is considerable, and can never be replaced. As a proof of this, it may be stated that a gentleman some time ago had the curiosity to undo one of the parchment powder-bags which happened to fall into his hands, and on putting the pieces together, he found that they formed part of an account of the revenue and disbursements of the Queen of Charles VII.—that is to say, threw great light on the domestic manners and customs of royalty at a most interesting period of French history. The account is entitled, in quaint old French—"29th. Account of the Expenses and Receipts, Ordinary and Extraordinary, of the Queen, for six whole months, namely, April, May, June, July, August, and September, 1457, in ready cash, also in wine, hay, oats, rabbits from different warrens, or other presents made to the said lady; likewise of fines and forfeits, paid before the *maîtres d'hôtel* of the same lady." *Apropos* of French archives, there have been discovered within the last few days, in a garret of the *Mairie* at Troyes, between 7000 and 8000 documents which belonged to the Abbey of Villeneuve, which was of considerable celebrity in olden time, and many of these papers date so far back as the ninth century!

The 'Athenæum' announces that Mr. Cole has become possessed of a number of Cowper MSS. of great interest—including nine unpublished letters of the poet—three written by his brother John, three by Dr. Cotton, thirteen by Lady Hesketh, two by Mary Unwin, several by Joseph Hill, Mrs. Hill, Ashley Cowper, Gen. Cowper, Lady Croft, Lady Austen, Dr. John Johnson, Samuel Rose, Bishop Madan, Jekyll, Charles Chester, and others, together with a MS. catalogue of the poet's library, taken after his death.

The Postmaster-General has announced his intention, subject to the approval of the several district boards of Commissioners of Pavements, of erecting pillar letter-boxes in the streets of London, similar to those long since in use in the streets of Paris. It is proposed to commence the experiment by the erection of a series of post-pillars in the main line of road from St. Paul's to Piccadilly. They will excite the curiosity of idlers for a time, but as the novelty wears away, the obstruction to passers-by will cease.

Gounod's new opera, the *Nonne Sanglante*, after being on the musical *tapis* for many months, and after long and anxious preparation, was definitively brought out at the Grand Opera of Paris, on Wednesday evening last. Its success was very great, and very well deserved. The 'Bleeding Nun,' or the 'Sanguinary Nun,' is a title which seems better adapted for the horror-loving audiences of the Gaité or the Ambigu than for the refined *habitués* of the Grand Opera. But it is that of a popular German legend on which the piece is founded, and the authors, Messrs. Scribe and Delavigne, may have thought it their duty to display historical fidelity *avant tout*. At all events, the work being of a very melodramatic character indeed, the title is appropriate enough, and it is certainly sufficiently startling to excite curiosity. The plot runs in this wise:—The time is that at which Peter the Hermit is getting up the first Crusade. There flourish in Bohemia two haughty nobles, Count of Luddorff the one, Baron of Moldau the other. Neighbours they are, but, as sometimes happens amongst lordly neighbours, they hate each other most intensely, and, in accordance with the custom of the day, frequently fight at the head of their respective dependents. In the midst of one of these battles Peter the Hermit arrives. Peter begins by separating the combatants; then lectures them on the folly and wickedness of trying to slaughter each other; and then, to "make things pleasant," proposes that they shall not only become

firm friends, but that they shall unite their families, by marrying Moldau's daughter, *Agnes*, to Luddorff's son, *Theobald*. They consent, and, without further ado, go to announce their resolution to the parties interested. Now it so happens that Miss *Agnes*, not foreseeing the intervention of the holy hermit, has taken on herself to fall in love with *Rodolph*, the younger son of *Luddorff*. She consequently is terror-stricken at her papa's announcement, and Master *Rodolph*, on his part, is in towering wrath. The two lovers meet, and *Rodolph* urges *Agnes* to fly from her father's castle at midnight. She declares that she dare not, because at that hour the drawbridge lowers itself, and the apparition of a blood-stained nun, armed with a dagger, stalks along it. *Rodolph*, burning with love, pooh-poohs the spectre, and tells her that by disguising herself as the nun she will be sure to get clear off. She hesitates, however. At this stage of the proceedings *Luddorff* comes in. He begins scolding his son for making love to *Agnes*, she being destined for his elder brother, and orders him to think no more of her. The young man, fancying himself badly treated, is insolent, and swears that he will not obey. On this the old gentleman gives him his malediction and walks off. *Agnes*, seeing that matters are beginning to look rather grave, now consents to fly with her lover. The flight is fixed for midnight, and she is to be disguised as the nun. At midnight *Rodolph* is waiting for her at the drawbridge. Exactly as the clock strikes, down falls the bridge and out stalks the nun. *Rodolph* at first is awe-stricken, but assuming that the person he sees must be *Agnes*, rushes to her and grasps her hand. The hand is cold, but still convinced that the person he sees is his *Agnes*, he with many expressions of joy thrusts a ring on to her finger, and hails her as his affianced bride. Thereupon the bloody nun, for it is she and not *Agnes*, clasps him to her heart, and whisks him away. *Agnes* then comes, but to her dismay finds not her lover. She bewails his absence, and retires. Meanwhile the nun carries off the young man to the ruins of an old mansion at some distance, and introduces him to some grim pale-faced ladies and gentlemen. She then invites him and them to a banquet. At the same moment a table becomes spread as if by enchantment. The young man wonders where he can be, but the nun tells him to feel no alarm, for that he is hers for ever. The guests speak not to him, and after awhile he finds that they are all ghosts. *Peter the Hermit* then comes in and exorcises the "perturbed spirits," who vanish. The nun, however, continues to follow *Rodolph*, and appears to him on all occasions. He is frightfully bored with her, and asks how he can contrive to get rid of her. She says that if he will avenge her she will leave him, and she proceeds to tell a long story about her having been betrayed by a man she was in love with, about this man having murdered her, and about her being under the necessity of having him killed, partly for the pleasure of vengeance, partly to be able to remain quiet in her grave. He promises to slay her betrayer, and she goes away without saying who the man is. *Rodolph* now receives a message from his father to the effect that his elder brother, *Theobald*, has been killed in a combat, and that he is at liberty to marry *Agnes*. He hurries home, and without delay proceeds to lead his mistress to the altar. But at this juncture the bloody nun appears to him, and summons him to execute his promise. He asks her to name the man he is to slay, and she points out his own father. He is horrified at the idea of steeping his hands in a parent's blood, and sooner than do so, breaks off his marriage, and takes flight in despair. On this the father and family of *Agnes* resolve to make him pay dearly for what appears to them a deliberate insult to her, and they send assassins in pursuit of him to kill him. *Agnes* also goes, and his father follows. *Agnes* falls in with him in the midst of mountains, and his father sees them together. The young man tells *Agnes* all about the nun, and the horrible promise he is under to kill his own father. The father overhears the tale, and is stricken with

remorse. Resolved to die, he throws himself into the midst of the assassins, and they, taking him for his son, murder him. The nun's vengeance is now complete, and the young man and *Agnes* are free to wed. And so the piece ends. The subject, it will be seen, is eminently dramatic, and M. Gounod has made the most of it. Joy, sorrow, terror, and all the varied and varying emotions of his different personages, are expressed with a master's power. Every part produces great effect, but that of the tenor stands out from them in marked relief, being full of tenderness, suavity, and beauty. Almost every *morceau* possesses some peculiar excellence; but what are most admired are a symphony of really remarkable grandeur, an air of *Peter the Hermit*, and duo of *Rodolph* and *Agnes*, a duo of the *Nun* and of *Rodolph*, and an air of *Rodolph*. The choruses are strikingly effective, and the grand finale is very fine. But the reader will understand, that on a first hearing it is impossible to do anything like justice to the music of a great and noble work: and we shall have occasion to speak of it hereafter, and with more *connaissance de cause*. Gueymard, Depassio, and Merly, and Mesdames Poinot, Wertheimer, and Dussy, sustained the principal rôles, and acquitted themselves most creditably. The orchestra was well disciplined, and the choruses careful.

No tidings of Mdlle. Cruvelli, whose sudden flight from Paris we mentioned in our last, have been obtained. Some persons say that she went off because she was exasperated at not having her name printed in the play-bills in larger letters than those of her colleagues; others, that she has gone to accept an engagement from Barum in the United States; others, that she is in pursuit of a faithless lover; and others, that she has gone to Brussels, to be married to a young Parisian of rank, Baron Vigier. The version which her personal friends take the greatest pains in spreading is the latter one; and they add, that she has long been disgusted with the theatrical profession, and long pined to emancipate herself from it. Whatever the cause, however, it is quite certain that she has acted most disgracefully to the theatre to which she was bound by solemn engagements, and most ungratefully to the public to whom she was indebted for constant indulgence. Her flight will give rise to law proceedings:—already have her furniture and the money at her bankers been seized as security for the forfeit which she bound herself in her compact to pay in the event of a breach of her engagement. Her salary was 4000*l.* a year; but the year consisted of only eight months; and during those months she was only required to sing twice a week! The rest of the year was at her own disposal. The amount of the forfeit to be claimed is to be 4000*l.*, and if the courts should award it all, as is probable, the fair deserter by her escapade will lose all the fruits of her first year's labour.

The Italian theatre in Paris has made an important acquisition, in the persons of a married couple named Gassier—the husband a Frenchman, the wife a Spaniard. They have both made a successful hit in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*. The lady possesses a soprano of great power and beauty, and of such extent that it goes beyond the ordinary limits of the human voice. Her method is very good, and she bids fair to attain high eminence. At the same theatre Frezzolini and Bellini have reappeared in *Otello*.

The performances of Meyerbeer's magnificent opera, the *Etoile du Nord*, suspended for a few weeks on account of the 'dead season,' have been resumed at the Opéra Comique at Paris, and are attracting enthusiastic crowds.

At the Olympic a new farce, *A Blighted Being*, adapted from a French piece, was produced, the principal character in which affords capital scope for Mr. Robson's peculiar genius and talents. *John Wort* (Mr. Robson), a miserable and disappointed man, whose hopes of wealth, from an uncle, have been blasted, and whose own efforts after fortune and fame have been unsuccessful, publishers refusing his epic poems and managers rejecting his plays, appears at a watering-place, in *shabby*

health a life and has only actual w distress. poor bli with Lu naval of Susan inn, res tries, by blue-pil will ne resolves apothec who has takes to Just at sympat the unl life he which l pounds waiter, given h of terr by Mr. when i apothec deadl arrives with whom the pie acted t coming Cooper dietta, Miss J Olymp able ac in two Beulah racters lie, Mi St. Ge At s times present burlesq Monde dancin son, a Toole the lite similar year. At Barne of his Guard his bri has m passed other Phelps at Sa scener most mer Sh The dian a at the house set ap manco but h would the V give a Parisi more theatr tialbe declar

health and broken spirits, grumbling over his past life and groaning in despair for the future. He has only a hundred pounds left in the world, when actual want may be added to his hypochondriacal distress. The wretchedness and restlessness of the poor blighted being are represented by Mr. Robson with ludicrous earnestness. A rollicking hearty naval surgeon, *Ned Spanker* (Mr. Leslie), brother of *Susan Spanker* (Miss E. Turner), landlady of the inn, recognises in *Job* an old schoolfellow, and tries, but in vain, to chase away his melancholy. His professional proposal to cure the blue devils by blue-pills, is very "aggravating" to poor *Job*, who will neither be cured nor comforted. At last he resolves on suicide, and has recourse to an Irish apothecary, *Thaddeus O'Rafferty* (Mr. Danvers), who has appeared on the scene, and who undertakes to give him a painless *quietus* in a potion. Just at this crisis the kind concern and practical sympathy of *Susan Spanker* make impression on the unhappy misanthrope, and in the joy of a new life he determines to refuse the prescription, for which he had given the apothecary his last hundred pounds. To his horror, however, he finds that the waiter, *Cummings* (Mr. H. Cooper), had already given him the fatal dose in a cup of tea. A scene of terrible excitement and horror is here enacted by Mr. Robson, which is only gradually relieved, when it turns out that *Ned Spanker* had got the apothecary to substitute blue-pill for anything more deadly; and in the midst of this relief news arrives of some fabulous fortune falling to *Job*, with which he endows and rewards kind *Susan*, to whom he will be speedily married. The acting of the piece was throughout excellent. Miss Turner acted the little landlady in a very pleasing and becoming style, and a more natural waiter than Mr. Cooper is rarely seen on the stage. In the comedietta, *A Match in the Dark*, on the same evening, Miss Maskell made her first appearance at the Olympic, to the company of which she is an acceptable acquisition. On Monday next a new drama, in two acts, is to be produced, and the burletta, *Bend Sin*, is to be revived, the principal characters by Messrs. Robson, Emery, Danvers, Leslie, Miss Marston, Miss E. Turner, and Miss Julia St. George.

At St. James's Theatre *The King's Rival* continues to be attractive, and Mr. Toole's comic representations afford considerable amusement. A burlesque, *The Spanish Dancers*, was produced on Monday, in which the style of Señora Nena's dancing is skilfully imitated by Miss Lydia Thomson, and other performances are caricatured by Mr. Toole. The idea of this Terpsichorean parody and the literary part of the burletta are taken from a similar burlesque which amused the Parisians last year.

At the Adelphi, on Monday night, Mr. Morris Barnett appeared for the last time, on the occasion of his benefit, as *Corporal Havresac*, in *The Old Guard*, and *Monsieur Jacques*. Mr. Barnett, in his brief but brilliant engagement at the Adelphi, has made some displays of high dramatic art, surpassed by few actors of the present time. The only other dramatic event of the week to note is Mr. Phelps's production of *Pericles*, the *Prince of Tyre*, at Sadler's Wells, with great gorgeousness of scenery, costume, and other adjuncts that render it most attractive as a spectacle. Our notice of Mr. Tom Parry's new drama at the Adelphi, *The Summer Storm*, we must reserve till next week.

The admired Bouffé has reappeared on the Parisian stage after a long and severe illness. It is at the Porte St. Martin that he has come out—a house too large for his peculiar style of acting, and set apart for an entirely different class of performers to those in which he was accustomed to shine; but his reception was every whit as hearty as it would have been at the Variétés, the Gymnase, or the Vaudeville, and his acting and pieces appear to give as much pleasure to the profane vulgar of the Parisian Surrey, as they would have done to the more intelligent auditors of either of the said three theatres. Although sickness has somewhat diminished the verve of the excellent actor, our letters declare that he still continues the first man

of the day in his own peculiar walk. At the same house, Mdlle. Georges has reappeared in a portentous melodrama, called the *Chambre Ardente*, in which she plays the rôle of the famous poisoner, the *Marquise de Brinvilliers*. Young play-goers may perhaps not be sorry to see the once great actress: but in sober truth her exhibitions are not of an agreeable character. Long before the fall of Napoleon she was in all the *éclat* of youth and beauty and talent; but since then many years have flown away, and they have done their work on her, as on other ordinary mortals:—added to which she was always afflicted with a tendency to obesity, and increase of years has naturally not diminished it. Besides, she retired from the stage years ago, on account of the decay of her powers, and resuscitated actors are not always welcome. The piece in which she figures is an awful affair. It was first brought out in 1833, when the 'romantic' fever was at its height, and Hugo and Dumas were carrying all before them:—but even then it exaggerated almost to caricature the spasmodic extravagances, absurdities, and violence of the romantic school. To the more reasonable play-goers of the present day it seems something monstrous.

Rachel, it is said, has withdrawn her resignation at the Théâtre Français, subject to the condition that she be allowed a certain number of months, commencing next spring, to make a *tournée* in the United States. She expects to realize an immense sum in the States; but well-informed people warn her that the Americans, taken *en masse*, are not well versed in the French language, and that they will have but little taste for the heavy lumbering classic tragedies in which she is wont to appear.

PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES.

BRITISH ASSOCIATION.—Section C.—A great deal of interest having been excited in the Geological Section of the British Association of Liverpool, by the warm discussion between Professor Sedgwick and the geologists present, regarding the nomenclature of the Palæozoic Rocks, we present our readers with the following careful abstract of his argument:—'On the Classification and Nomenclature of the Palæozoic System of Britain,' by Professor Sedgwick, F.R.S. 1. Under the term Palæozoic System are included collectively all the Palæozoic groups, from the oldest Cambrian to the Permian inclusive. Under the term Lower Palæozoic are included only the Cambrian and Silurian rocks. This paper is a continuation of the one read last year at Hull on the same subject. The points first insisted on were,—That the original Cambrian sections of the author were correct in principle, and that his nomenclature is based on true sections, and his successive groups determined on the evidence both of fossils and true physical groups. That no other classification has been proposed which even approximately answers to both of these tests.

2nd. That his nomenclature and classification have the priority, and are true in a geographical sense. The rocks of Cambria are called Cambrian; the rocks of Siluria are all called Silurian, so far as the Silurian sections are right, and so far as the Silurian nomenclature is compatible with the evidence of physical sections.

3rd. That the Cambrian and Silurian series are widely separated in structure and in fossils, as has been shown in former communications, and as is further confirmed by the facts of this communication.

The author then proceeded to details illustrative of the following points:—1st. That the true Silurian series, of which the best type does exist in Siluria, is based on the Ray Hill sandstone; and that, as a general rule, this series is unconformable to the Cambrian rocks,—being brought over them, either in a discordant position, or in a discordant succession, by the irregular overlap of the true Silurian groups over the true Cambrian. Illustrations of this point were drawn from the sections (previously exhibited to the Association), and also from additional sections from Presteign, Builth,

the neighbourhood of Llandovery, and the valley of the Towy, near Llandeilo. By a direct appeal to the sections from Wenlock to Horderly, &c., it was proved that the section of Caer Caradoc was an example of a discordant and broken succession, and had consequently led to an erroneous classification and nomenclature. It is a section which (without great modification) cannot possibly be appealed to as typical either for the purpose of classification or of nomenclature.

The lower part of the Presteign section is a true Ray Hill sandstone, without a single true Cambrian species, i.e. without a single species which has hitherto been found in Cambrian, but not found in the undoubted or Upper Silurian rocks. The Builth section is a fine example of a discordant succession of groups, while the beds are all nearly parallel to one another. The Llandeilo formation of Builth is immediately overlaid by the Horderly (or Ray Hill) bed and the Wenlock shale. The position of the bed is clear, and there is no confusion of organic types. The Llandeilo fossils are typical Cambrian. The fossils of the bed over them are typical Silurian.

The author then entered on several details drawn from Dol Fan, Bwlch Trebennau, Glengod, Pen-y-lan, &c.; and of Randinam and Castell-Craig-Gwyddon he exhibited sections. His object was to prove that in the regions mentioned or described there was no confusion of organic types, and no inconsistency in the sections. At Castell-Craig-Gwyddon, Pen-y-lan, and Randinam, were found examples of the Ray Hill sandstone; but in no instance was the sandstone inferior to, or alternating with, any group with true Cambrian types. The Ray Hill group appeared as a 'top dressing' to the true Cambrian rocks. On this point the author was at issue with the Government survey. The author concluded that the facts as above stated strongly confirmed his previous classification, and showed that the adoption of a middle Silurian group, which linked the Horderly and Caer Caradoc sandstone with that of Ray Hill, was an error fatal to any system of correct classification and nomenclature.

Lastly were described in some detail the Llandeilo sections of the Towy. It was shown, first, that the Llandeilo beds were (like those at Builth) in a discordant succession to the true Silurian groups. Secondly, that the overlooking of this fact led to an erroneous grouping of the Llandeilo and Wenlock beds. Thirdly, that the same oversight led to an erroneous conception of the base of the Llandeilo group, in consequence of which the relations of the Silurian to the Cambrian rocks were absolutely inverted. These facts prove that the Llandeilo flag of the Silurian system cannot be a type of comparison of any help to a true nomenclature. And the same remark includes all rocks called Llandeilo flag in the Silurian system. None of the groups can have a right place in the general sequence while the typical group is misplaced in the general section of Wales.

Having cleared these questions of fact, the author of the communication affirms that he has no share in the fundamental errors of the two Lower Silurian groups. The merits and demerits of them belong to the author of the Silurian system. Neither had the author of this paper any share in the determination of the Silurian base line. He contends that the correction of the erroneous Lower Silurian groups by an obliteration of their base, and by the incorporation of all Cambrian rocks within them, was utterly unphilosophical, and was a violation of every rule on which British nomenclature has been founded. And if the saving of the so-called Lower Silurian nomenclature, by the conversion of all 'Upper Cambrian' groups into a Llandeilo flag, was strange and anomalous, and historically unjust, still more monstrous is the new development of the mistaken group Llandeilo flag into all the older Cambrian rocks of North Wales. The history of science does not show us a more complete example of a *reductio ad absurdum*.

Leaving grounds which are partly physical and partly historical, the author contends that the Cambrian series and the Silurian form two subdivi-

sions, quite as wide apart *palæontologically* as are the Devonian and Carboniferous. Many species called common to Cambrian and Silurian rocks are so called by mistake,—by not attending to the important plan of the Ray Hill group. But taking the catalogue of Mr. Morris, without any demur or correction, we cannot out of that catalogue find much more than 10 per cent. of species common to Cambrian and Silurian rocks. The author, however, believes that this per centage would be an exaggeration of the truth.

Lastly, he concludes, That on no ground, geographical, physical, or palæontological, can the great Cambrian series be excluded from its right place in British palæozoic nomenclature. It is in fact the only good British type of that series. The Cambrian types are palæontologically defective. The Lower Silurian types fail altogether.

Section A.—The proceedings of Friday were commenced by Professor Powell reading his report 'On Radiant Heat.' The researches of Melloni (now no more) and of Knoblauch were described; and the conversion of the former to the opinion, that light and radiant heat differed from each other only in the length of their undulations, was referred to. The most recent results of Knoblauch were, that certain bodies possessed the power of permitting heat to radiate through them in different quantities in different directions. The Professor concluded by an analysis of a recent paper by Professor Wm. Thomson, in which we shall refer in another place. Professor Tyndall communicated to the Section, and illustrated experimentally, some of the results of an inquiry on the diamagnetic force. With regard to the nature of this force, the greatest diversity of opinion prevails; in Germany we have Weber affirming that diamagnetic bodies possess a polarity opposite to that of ours; Von Feilitzsch, on the contrary, affirms that the polarity of magnetic and diamagnetic bodies is the same; while in this country Professor Faraday, and it was believed Professor Thomson, were not prepared to accept the notion of diamagnetic polarity at all. In the present investigation it was attempted to obtain clear and certain evidence as to the nature of diamagnetism; the author first proved that the repulsion of bismuth was due to a temporary state of excitement into which it was cast by the influencing magnet, the strength of this excitement varying with the strength of the magnet. It was next proved that the condition noted by one magnetic pole was different from the condition noted by a pole of the opposite quality, and from this the presumption was derived that the diamagnetic force was *dual* in its character. An inquiry was next instituted into the deportment of diamagnetic bodies when operated on—firstly, by the magnet alone; secondly, by the electric current alone; and, thirdly, by the magnet and the current combined. It was shown that the greatest errors might be committed if, in studying magnetic and diamagnetic phenomena, the influence of structure were not taken into account. A normal diamagnetic bar always exhibited a deportment precisely antithetical to that of a normal magnetic bar; but, by taking advantage of structure, it was possible to get diamagnetic bars which exhibit precisely the same deportment as normal magnetic ones, and magnetic bars which exhibit a deportment precisely similar to normal diamagnetic ones. An abnormal bar of either class showed a deportment perfectly identical with the normal bar of the other class; the antitheses, however, subsisting between normal bars of both classes, and between abnormal bars of both classes, lend strength to the presumption that whatever the nature of the influence may be to which the attraction of soft iron is to be attributed, to an influence of the same nature, but antithetical in its manner of distribution, the repulsion of diamagnetic bodies is to be referred. Following up the inquiry, and entering into a thorough comparison of magnetic and diamagnetic phenomena, the author showed that the deportment of both was throughout antithetical. A certain disposition of forces would cause the ends of an iron bar to be attracted; the same disposition would

cause the ends of a bismuth bar to be repelled; while that combination of forces which produced the repulsion of the iron bar, produced the attraction of the bismuth one. The experiments, without exception, go to prove that the diamagnetic force is a polar force, and that its direction is opposed to that of the force in ordinary magnetic bodies. M. Shirm communicated a method of manufacturing cylindrical lenses. Professor Phillips read a paper, 'On the Aspects of the Moon, obtained by means of Photographic Processes.' The committee appointed to pursue this subject consisted of the Earl of Rosse, Dr. Robinson, and himself; but anything they had to show was not at all to be compared with the results that had been obtained by the voluntary exertions of the photographers of Liverpool. The Professor proceeded to observe that daily experience proved that the more their telescopic power was increased, the less circular became the lunar craters, and the less smooth the surface of the moon itself. All was sharp and irregular, bespeaking the occurrence at some remote period of extraordinary revolutions. M. Foucault made a series of beautiful experiments demonstrating the rotation of the earth, the stability of the axes of rotation, and many other mechanical problems of the highest interest. A rotating disk loaded at its rim was set in motion by multiplying wheels; it was with a considerable exertion of strength that such a disk could be turned round while held by the axis in the experimenter's hand, no obstacle being presented to its being turned when the disk was not in motion. The rotating disk being placed with the ends of its axis resting delicately on a proper support, it turned from the horizontal position in which the axis was first placed, and set its axis exactly parallel with that of the earth. Not only can we thus find the direction of the earth's axis by M. Foucault's gyroscope, but we can also determine the direction of the earth's rotation,—it is always that of the rotatory disk. When the motion of the earth was compensated by an equal motion of the board on which the support rested in an opposite direction, the axis no longer set itself parallel to that of the earth, but set itself exactly horizontal. The rotating disk being suspended perfectly free by a suitable arrangement, and a long index attached to the disk, on setting the latter in motion the needle was slowly seen to deviate from the zero of a scale, and to march slowly over the latter; this apparent motion of the index being due in reality to the earth's rotation carrying the scale away from the index. A remarkable experiment was made by suspending the end of the axis of the rotatory disk from a string; the disk which, if motionless, would have fallen to the earth, was supported by the string, and continued to rotate with its axis at right angles to the suspending string. When a small book was attached to the end of the axis, on causing this book to rest upon a small steel cap placed on the summit of a vertical stand, the disk, instead of falling, was securely supported, and continued to rotate round its vertical axis. Other experiments, too delicate to be attempted in public, were made in private by M. Foucault; it is scarcely possible to describe the beauty and success of these experiments, and it is needless to say that they met from the members of the British Association the reception they deserved.

VARIETIES.

The Torbanehill New Mineral.—There was lately tried in the Court of Queen's Bench, before the Lord Chief Justice Campbell and a special jury, a case that had an important reference to the value of this new and now very celebrated mineral. The case is titled, in the full reports which have been made of it, 'Young v. White and others,' and the parties to the action were Messrs. Young, Biney, and Meldrum, manufacturing chemists, near Bathgate, plaintiffs, and Messrs. White and Co., gas manufacturers and manufacturing chemists, Manchester, defendants. It appears from the reports of the trial that the plaintiff, James Young, on being sworn, deposed that he "manufactured and

sold at the rate of 8000 gallons a-week" of the Paraffine oil, which is procured from the Torbanehill new mineral. 8000 gallons a-week are 416,000 gallons a-year, and accordingly Mr. Young's counsel, Mr. Bramwell, stated that his client sold (in round numbers) "400,000 gallons of this oil yearly," Mr. Bramwell adding, "at 5s. per gallon." That is, Mr. Young stated, while his counsel repeated the statement, that from the chemical works near Bathgate, which prepare the Paraffine oil procured from the Torbanehill mineral, there are sold of that valuable oil 100,000l. worth yearly, and it is to be borne in mind that the greater portion of this very large yearly sum is clear profit. Young and Co. are only one of the many parties in this country, and all over the world, who order and obtain the Torbanehill mineral. Of what immense value must it then be in a commercial point of view!—*Edinburgh Witness.*

The Australian 'George Robins.'—Mr. A. Polack has been instructed by the Proprietor to sell by public auction that superior and highly commanding property, situated in the Parish of Alexandria, about two miles and a quarter from the eastern boundary of the limits of the capital of Australia, known as Bosphorus. The facilities of approach to this Bosphorus of the South is much easier than the approach to the Bosphorus of the North, and parties who know the situation of this position require no comments from the Auctioneer. It is useless to state through the medium of a public journal that while peace reigns near the Southern Bosphorus, that war prevails in the Northern Bosphorus; that whilst the labourers are using the pickaxe and spade, there they are wielding the battle-axe and sword. It is necessary to point out to the stranger who arrives in this colony, that this is the only spot looked by medical advisers as the place where you can inhale the purest air from the South Atlantic breezes, and enjoy the scenery and prospects, combined with cerulean transcendence. Such a position cannot be equalled in the world, not even Madeira or the Italian, so confidently resorted to for the reaction of the health of the invalids of this great globe. In fact it may be compared to Bath, Cheltenham, the Spa, Brighton, or other places of England. Here the invalid can recover his health, the healthy continue in that bountiful enjoyment, and the industrious mechanic can procure a position in this life by his own indefatigable exertions to make himself an independent man.—*Sydney Advertiser.*

Monuments.—While the British Association were at Liverpool, a general meeting of the subscribers to the erection of a monument to Sir Isaac Newton, at Grantham, was held there, the Earl of Harrowby in the chair. With that view a subscription, originated at Grantham, was stated to amount to 1300l. A resolution was decided on, which comprised an expression of thanks to the Queen and Prince Albert for their patronage of the undertaking; a decision that the memorial should be a bronze statue, to be erected at Grantham, on the site given for that purpose by the town-council; that any surplus sum should be appropriated to the furtherance of science; and committees to be appointed to receive subscriptions, make selection of designs, and select an artist to execute the work.—Another design besides Mr. Bell's, for a monument to Mr. Montgomery, at Sheffield, has been formed. Mr. Milnes, the sculptor, has produced a full-length figure of the poet as he sat in his reading chair. The desire of the artist is, it appears, to offer his design in competition with Mr. Bell's for the public monument. Should that effort be unsuccessful, it is the design of Mr. Floc-ton, according to the 'Sheffield Independent,' to have the statue executed and placed under the portico at the Mount.—As a monument to the late Daniel O'Connell, it is proposed to build over his remains a chapel, a round tower, and an Irish Cross, as already mentioned, the tower being 160 feet high. The ceremony of laying the foundation-stone took place the week before last, when a large number of the friends of the deceased were present, including several members of his family and their children.—*Builder.*

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The Annual General Meeting of this Society was held on the 30th May, 1851, when a Report of the business for the last year was presented, exhibiting a statement of most satisfactory progress. It appeared that the Assurances in 1850 considerably exceeded those effected in any previous year. The number of Policies issued being more than 460, and the annual income thereon being upwards of £7500. It also appeared that, except in 1849, when the visitation of the cholera took place, the claims arising from deaths were, in every year, much below their estimated amount.

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Statements of accounts from the formation of the Company down to the 31st December last, were laid before the meeting, from which the following is abstracted:—

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